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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1875.

Trouble Over the Treaty of Washington.

The recent ruling of the Secretary of the Treasury upon the mode of transit of goods from Canada across the territory of the United States for export at the three ports recognized under the Treaty of Washington, has resulted in one of the most important issues which has come up for many years. The order of promulgation of the new regulations under the treaty, which was to have been made some days ago, has been delayed, awaiting the signature of the President. The main question at stake, is the destruction of the commerce of Portland, and the diversion of a valuable transit trade from the United States. When the Grand Trunk line was established from Detroit to Montreal communication was opened by that same road from Detroit, via Port Huron and Montreal, to Portland. The line now carries an immense amount of Western freights, grain, lumber and cattle from our own States, and has become the threatening rival of the Pennsylvania Central, Baltimore and Ohio and Lake Shore railroads in the transportation of our own products, particularly for export. The two other great Canada lines—the Great Western, from Detroit to the Suspension bridge, and the Canada Southern, from Grosse Isle, at the head of Lake Erie, to Buffalo—acting in co-operation with the New York road, and making their sea outlet at New York city, also offer a decided competition. It has been customary for some years to send freights in transit through on customs seals and, to accommodate their export trade, the Grand Trunk built warehouses, sheds, houses and docks at Portland, at a cost of millions. Under the recent orders of the Secretary, all goods hitherto examined at Portland as they took ships, ships, ships, must be examined at Island Pond, on the border. The enforcement of this order would not only render the warehouses at Portland useless, but would necessitate the erection of new ones at Island Pond. The Grand Trunk people threaten that, if compelled to abandon their warehouses at Portland, they will construct their own railroad, now in part in running order, to Halifax, which will give them an export road independent of our lines and a port on British soil open at all seasons of the year. The result of the transferring of this trade to Halifax, will be that the immense American export from Michigan and the tier of States westward and contiguous to the great lakes, will be virtually exported at Port Huron and will not again enter the United States. It is proposed, instead of the transportation and exportation entry now required at Island Pond, to make a compromise by getting out a new form, to be designated as the manifest entry bond, to be given on the frontiers and to be cancelled upon the return of the proper papers from the port of entry. The Maine people will test the matter in the courts, if they cannot get satisfactory action in the department.

The Mexican Excursion Disbanded.

A private dispatch from New Orleans, from one of the Senatorial Mexican excursion party, received to-night, says that the party has disbanded. Some of them will return home, while others speak of taking the mail boat to Vera Cruz. None of them will go on the Government steamer.

Figures for the Centennial.

The Treasury Department is preparing, for exhibition at the Centennial, a document which will contain an elaborate and comprehensive history of the financial transactions of our Government, during the last one hundred years. The volume will contain, in detail, a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Government for the period named, a history of all the loans and debts created, and hitherto unpublished manuscripts of some of our earlier financiers.

Postal Intelligence.

The following is a list of postal changes and post officers appointed in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, for the week ending April 3, 1875, from the official record:

PENNSYLVANIA.

James S. Hastings, March 31, appointed a regular letter carrier at Allegheny city, *vice* William S. Wirts, resigned—Fowlersville, Columbia county, to Wittmire, and Hiram Wittmire appointed *vice* D. Ingham, resigned.

Discontinued—Black Ash, Crawford county, papers transferred to Sugar Lake.

Postmasters Appointed—Abraham M. Hess, Hobbie, Luzerne county, *vice* A. Shubert, resigned; Allen G. Eggleston, Yeomans, Bucks county, *vice* M. Eggleston, resigned; John Nichols, Pearson, Lebanon county, *vice* Wm. Lorch; William H. Hoy, Mapletown Depot, Huntingdon county, *vice* J. E. Hamilton, resigned; J. Taylor Ferguson, Wilson, Columbia county, *vice* J. Hicks, resigned; Charles A. Brown, Brandy Camp, Elk county, *vice* J. S. Hyde, declined; Harvey Bunn, Somerstown, Montgomery county, *vice* J. N. Gerhardt, resigned; Michael P. Eagen, Silver Creek, Schuylkill county, *vice* A. Scott, resigned; Makion Sager, Neshaminy, Bucks county, *vice* C. Sager, resigned; Samuel Jackson Hauman, McAlevy's Fort, Huntingdon county, *vice* G. M. McAlevy, resigned; P. B. Colson, Llcellville, Tioga county, *vice* L. S. Linecin, resigned; James A. Campbell, Marsh, Beaver county, *vice* Samuel Campbell; Isaac K. Meyer, Eagleville, Montgomery county, *vice* W. F. Ellis, resigned; Levi Wildermuth, Crooked Hill, Montgomery county, *vice* H. Specht, resigned; T. Elwood Palmer, Chesterville, Chester county, *vice* J. K. Sharpless, resigned; Jacob M. Glazier, Sine Knob, Blair county, *vice* J. M. Claar, resigned; Joseph M. Hunsberger, Sussex county, *vice* G. R. Robbitt, declined.

OHIO

Postmaster Appointed—William McKee, Columbia station, Lorain county, *vice* Richard O. Newton; Ellie A. Tessander, Union Plains, Brown county, *vice* John Allison; Nesley Pearce, North, Washington, Hardin county, *vice* F. B. Kinner, resigned; George D. Roberts, New Somerset, Jefferson county, *vice* J. L. Johnson, resigned; Reuben Johnson, East Plymouth, Ashtabula county, *vice* Anson N. Tracy, resigned; Levi Thomas, Thurmell, Washington county, *vice* James M. Malcomb, resigned; John Yeos, Springville, Wyane county, *vice* Charlotte Carl, deceased; Thomas McNamara, New Portage, Summit county, *vice* Robert Caldwell, resigned; Joseph Fenno, Orrville, Perry county, *vice* John H. Newman, removed; Fred. Mittendorf, Iron Furnace, Scioto county, *vice* Thomas Mortimer; Joseph P. D. Hopkins, Hopkinsville, Warren county, *vice* John Hopkins, deceased.

Postoffice Re-established—Walkersville, Lewis county, route 4,211, Christian Simon, P. M.

Site Changed—Mail Depot, Hamilton county, to Smithville, and Michael A. Ayres continued P. M.

Established—Frozen Camp, Jackson county, route 4,153, W. W. Parsons P. M.; Salem, Greenbrier county, route 4,176, Wm. Wyatt, P. M.

Postmaster Appointed—A. B. Johnston, Uniontown, Wetzel county, *vice* F. M. Stansberry, resigned.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5, 1875.

The Government and the Mexican Raids.

Statements emanating from this city and assuming to give the policy of the Government in regard to the recent Mexican outrages on the Texan border, have been widely circulated the last few days. One of the statements indicated that the President had determined to demand a money indemnity from Mexico; another statement, sent from here last night and printed in all the papers of the country, argues that the President-elect will make such demands for reparation as will *satisfy our national honor. These statements* were brought to the attention of the President to-day, and he promptly and decisively characterized them as a fraud. The intimation of a purpose on the part of the Administration to annex any portion of Mexico, the President said, was so supremely ridiculous as scarcely to merit notice. The President said the most ignorant person would know that any such design, even if entertained, must receive the assent of Congress before being executed. The President repeated what was stated in these dispatches a week ago, that although disorders undoubtedly prevailed on the Texan border, it was also very probable their extent was considerably exaggerated. He thought these matters could be made the basis of diplomatic correspondence between our Government and that of Mexico, we must be in possession of authentic details. The secretary of State has been absent from Washington since the receipt of the first intelligence on this subject, and therefore the President and he have had no consultation concerning the matter. The President is fully advised of the facts, he will then determine what action to take.

The Louisiana Compromise

does not progress well. Advices received to-day from the highest Republican sources in New Orleans, state that the Republican members of the Legislature decided not elected by the Arbitration Committee, will refuse to surrender their seats to the Democrats, but will resign and Governor Kellogg will then order a new election. The reason for this course is said to be that it is claimed that these nine parishes are Republican on a fair vote. Such action as this must result in a deadlock, consequently it is not anticipated that any violence will ensue. The practical result will be that the Kellogg government will retain entire control of the State until the next regular Gubernatorial election.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

STATEMENT FOR LAST MONTH.

Decrease for the Month $3,681,210.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The following is an abstract of the official statement of the Public Debt for the month of March 1875:

Six per cent. bonds	$1,149,135,900
Five per cent. bonds	574,252,750
Total coin bonds	$1,723,388,650
Lawful money debt	14,078,000
Matured debt	7,973,650
Legal tenders	$ 370,288,888
Certificates of deposit	45,015,000
Fractional currency	44,343,329
Coin certificates	24,191,900
Total without interest	$ 490,878,991
Total debt	$2,236,934,292
Total interest	29,048,419
Total debt and interest	$2,265,987,711
Cash in Treasury, coin	$ 84,159,559
Cash in Treasury, currency	5,132,412
Special deposits held for redemption of certificates of deposit	43,045,000
Total in Treasury	$ 133,332,933
Debt less cash in Treasury	$2,132,654,778
Decrease of debt in March	$ 3,681,210

Bonds issued to Pacific railway companies, interest in lawful money, principal outstanding..... 64,623,512
Interest accrued and not paid..... 939,352
Interest paid by United States..... 26,264,192
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, &c..... 5,943,748
Balance of interest paid by United States..... 20,320,554

THE MINERS.

Rioting at Donaldson—Meeting of Strikers at Hazleton—The Governor's Proclamation.

POTTSVILLE, PA., April 3.—At Donaldson, in the western section of the county, heretofore undisturbed, a gang of men armed with pistols and clubs attacked the men at the West End colliery at night, and also attacked the homes of a number of Union men, and did much damage.

HAZLETON, April 3.—A delegate meeting of several branches of the Miners' Union belonging to this region, was held here to-day. Its object is supposed to have had some bearing on the works at Mount Pleasant. Runners have been sent out for a mass meeting of miners to be held Monday. The merchants of the town who formed part of the Sheriff's posse Wednesday and Thursday have incurred the opposition of the miners. A grocer's wagon, sent to Ebervale to deliver goods, was stoned out of town and the driver obliged to return without delivering the goods. Several of the merchants were ordered out to assist the Sheriff, fearing to incur the ill-will of the miners, refused to go, preferring to risk penalties.

HARRISBURG, April 3.—Governor Hartranft has issued a proclamation, in which he says:

WHEREAS, It is represented to me that in the counties of Luzerne and Schuylkill certain evil-disposed persons have combined themselves together, in violation of law, causing terror to law-abiding citizens and placing life and property in peril by their tumultuous and disorderly conduct, and with force and arms are intruding upon the rights of persons and corporations and preventing well-disposed persons from the pursuit of their lawful employment and avocations; and

WHEREAS, It is the sacred duty of the Executive to take care that the laws be faithfully executed:

Now, therefore, I, John F. Hartranft, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, command all such evil-disposed persons in the aforesaid and other counties, to disperse and depart from further unlawful combinations and tumultuous conduct, and return without delay to their homes; and all such persons are hereby notified that if they fail forthwith to comply with this command, the sheriffs of said counties shall call for whatever military aid may be necessary to preserve order, protect life and property and enforce obedience to the laws of the Commonwealth.

POTTSVILLE, April 4—It is arranged that John Siney accompanies John Welsh, President of the Schuylkill county branches of the Miners' Association, to Carbon and Luzerne counties to endeavor to induce a strike there.

SAN DOMINGO.

A Bill of Five Millions to be Sent Hither —Responsibility of our Government for the Eccentricities of Baez.

SAN DOMINGO, April 3.—It is stated that this Government is now being hard pressed by about two thousand of its citizens, victims of Baez's action while under the immediate protection of United States ships of war, to present a claim on the United States Government for losses and injuries to the Government and people arising therefrom. The foundation of this claim has been taken from a speech of Senator Sumner of Massachusetts, in violations of international law and usurpations of war powers. The Government intends, it is said, to present its full claim for five millions of dollars, but has not yet decided how or by whom they will present it, having no diplomatic representative in Washington. The argument the Dominican Government will submit in support of this claim, recites all about Baez's accession to power, his attempt to dispose of the country and the lease of Samana; declares that he was maintained in power by United States troops, he plundered the treasury to a large portion of which he and ill treated citizens; alludes to many other facts in regard to the relations between the United States and Santo Domingo which have compelled revolutions during several years; and declares that the acts of the United States Government were in violation of international law, and that it is responsible for the losses and injuries occasioned by the protection of Baez.

THE ELECTIONS.

Connecticut Elects Ingersoll Governor—Hawley Defeated—Starkweather Elected Republican Gains in Michigan—Cincinnati Democratic.

CONNECTICUT.

HARTFORD, April 5.—Forty towns in the State give Charles R. Ingersoll, Democrat, for Governor, 11,158; James Lloyd Greene, Republican, 8,808; Henry D. Smith, Prohibitionist, 792. Last year the same towns gave Ingersoll, Democrat, 9,808; Harrison, Republican, 7,828; Smith, Prohibitionist, 941. Ingersoll is probably elected by the people. The Legislature, as far as heard from, is about the same as last year. Hawley is probably defeated in the First district by from 2,000 to 4,000.

HARTFORD, April 5.—Hartford county complete gives Greene, Republican for Governor, 9,704; Ingersoll, Democrat, 11,987; and Smith, Prohibition, 477. Last year the vote of the county was: Harrison, Republican, 8,367; Ingersoll, Democrat, 10,713; and Smith, Prohibition, 1,038.

Tolland county compiete gives Greene, Republican, for Governor, 2,078; Ingersoll, Democrat, 2,165; Smith Prohibitionist, 184. Last year the vote of the county was: Harrison, Republican, 1,828; Ingersoll, Democrat, 2,065, and Smith, Prohibitionist, 368.

Litchfield county, all but Washington, gives Greene, Republican, 3,790; Ingersoll, Democrat, 5,399; Smith, Prohibition, 175. Last year the vote of the county was as follows:

Harrison, Republican, 3,883; Ingersoll, Democrat, 5,078; Smith, Prohibitionist, 258. For Congress—Litchfield county gives Barnum, Democrat, 5,272; Hubbard, Republican, 3,911; Temperance, 85.

In the First Congressional district, General Hawley runs ahead of the Republican ticket in Hartford largely, and Landers runs behind the Democratic ticket in his own town, New Britain.

Twenty of the twenty-five towns of New Haven county, give Greene, Republican, 8,967, Ingersoll, Democrat, 12,328; Smith, Prohibition, 350.

Thirteen of twenty-three towns of Fairfield county give Greene 2,569, Ingersoll 3,543, and Smith 355.

Middlesex county entire gives Greene 2,052, Ingersoll 3,291, and Smith 353.

New London county—Greene 5,625, Ingersoll 5,329, Smith 341.

Wyndham county—Greene 2,691, Ingersoll 2,677, Smith 162.

A Republican gain in the last two counties of 514.

NEW HAVEN, April 5.—Middlesex county entire, and Fairfield and New Haven counties, with seven towns to hear from, give Greene 18,129 and Ingersoll 28,857. The seven towns last year gave Ingersoll 800 majority.

NORWICH, April 5.—Starkweather, Republican, for Congress in the Third district, is elected by about 500 majority.

NEW YORK, April 5.—With only thirty-five towns to be heard from, the Gubernatorial vote in Connecticut stands: Greene 84,584, Ingersoll 85,908, Smith 3,388. Ingersoll is certainly elected by 7,050 majority. The following Congressmen are elected: First district, Landers, Democrat; Second district, Starkweather, Republican; Fourth district, Barnum, Democrat.

BRIDGEPORT, April 5.—P. T. Barnum is elected Mayor of this city.

NEW HAVEN, April 5.—Twenty-three of the forty towns in this Congressional district, give Kellogg, Republican, 12,849; Phelps, Democrat, 14,158. The latter is undoubtedly elected.

OHIO.

Steubenville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

STEUBENVILLE, O., April 5, 1875.

The municipal and township elections, held to-day, passed off quietly. More than usual interest was manifested, and an unusually heavy vote was polled. The Republicans elected the Mayor, City Marshal, Street Commissioner, Water Works Trustee, four out of six Councilmen and the whole township ticket. The Democrats elected the City Solicitor and two Councilmen. This is a decided victory and a large gain for the Republicans. The Democratic majority on the State ticket last fall was over six hundred.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, April 6, 2:30 A. M.—At this hour returns from twenty-six out of the fifty-one precincts have been received. Johnston, Democrat, for Mayor, leads Robinson, Citizens' vote now polled, 2,000 majority. The rest of the Democratic ticket, except for Judge of Police Court, has about 2,500 majority. Linderman, citizens' candidate for Police Judge, has the above twenty-six precincts, has 2,300 majority over J. W. Fitzgerald, Democratic. The latter's defeat is certain. On the county ticket the Democratic candidates for Board of Control have about 1,200 majority.

CINCINNATI, April 6—2 A. M.—Returns from forty-four out of fifty-one precincts give Johnson, Democrat, for Mayor, 5,500 majority, and Lindeman, citizens' over Fitzgerald, Dem., for Police Judge, 4,000 majority. The Democrats elected three of their ticket, including Board of Control. Full returns will not change this result.

Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, April 5.—The municipal election in this city to-day was very exciting. No disturbances are reported. A large vote was cast. The Democrats claim the election by a considerable majority. Nothing definite can be ascertained to-night.

Toledo.

TOLEDO, April 5.—The municipal election to-day passed off quietly. At a late hour the count is not completed. Cannot give anything definite to-night. The result is doubtful.

INDIANA.

Evansville.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., April 5.—In the charter election, held here to-day, the Democrats elected their entire ticket, except Treasurer and one Councilman.

MICHIGAN.

DETROIT, April 5.—Returns from all parts show general Republican gains. B. F. Groves is re-elected Justice of the Supreme Court on both tickets. Marston, who heads the Republican ticket, from appearances, 15,000 majority at least, for Justice of the Supreme Court, and the rest of the Republican State ticket is but little behind. In the county, Judge Longyear, Democrat, is elected Circuit Judge. In this city George Swift is re-elected Recorder without opposition.

MARYLAND.

Annapolis, Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—At the Municipal election to-day, the Democrats elected their entire ticket by 85 majority.

SHUTTING OFF SUPPLIES.

A Flank Movement by Ladies on the Soaks and Gin Sellers in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

The ladies in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, made out a list of five hundred citizen, and introduced it with the following notice which was deposited with the Corporation Clerk, in compliance with the provisions of the amended Adair law:

"All liquor dealers are hereby notified not to sell or give away any intoxicating liquors to any person whose name is hereto attached, after ten days from the 8th day of March, 1875."

Witness our hands this 8th day of March, 1875.

MRS. AMELIA HUNT,
MRS. LUCY A. HENDERSON,
MRS. L. F. BEERY,
MRS. S. E. MYERS.

There was a great sensation on the discovery of this sharp practice. Lawyers were consulted by the men whose names appeared upon the list of the interdicted. The saloon keepers sought legal advice. Opinions were given both ways—that the notice was legal and that it wasn't. It is supposed that the notice was disregarded and that all who wanted "a little within" got it as usual. But the excitement in the community is still kept up and it is believed there will be some sort of a "back spang," for nobody can guess what the next movement of the women will be. The filing of the notice with its large list of names was like the explosion of a mine, and men go about fearing another will be sprung upon them when they least expect it.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, writing from the Rocky Mountain country, says that the much talked of Black Hills of Dakota are situated between the 43d and 44th parallels of latitude and the 103d and 105th degrees of longitude, and occupy an area of about one hundred miles in length and sixty miles in breadth—6,000 square miles. The shape of this mountain mass is somewhat elliptical, the direction its main axis being about twenty degrees west of north. On the east side of these mountains the Missouri hills is about 2,500 feet above the level of the sea, and on the west side about 3,000 feet, while the highest peak is about 6,700 feet above sea level. The whole mass is embraced by the two forks of the Cheyenne river, which unite about thirty miles east of the hills, and form the Big Cheyenne, which, after ranging into the Missouri about thirty miles above Fort Sully. The North branch passes along the north end of the range, and receives many of its tributaries and most of its water from that region, taking its rise, however, far to the west, near the base of the great Rocky Mountain range. The South branch flows along the south end of the range, taking its rise in the same region and near the source of the North branch, and like it receiving most of its waters from the streams that flow out of the Black Hills.

Mrs. Catharine Shreak, of Harrisburg, has a Bible printed at Frankfort-on-the Main, in 1564—three hundred and eleven years ago.

LOST FOR A LIFETIME.

The Story of a Search For a Stolen Child in The Olden Time.

Some thirty years ago John Quincy Adams attracted considerable attention in Congress by a strong speech in favor of a bill introduced by B. A. Bidlack, of Pennsylvania, which provided that one square mile of the land then occupied by the Miami Indians, embracing the house and improvements of Frances Slocum, should be granted in fee to her and her heirs forever. The bill became a law, and she occupied this special reserve until her death in the spring of 1847.

The history of this woman was remarkable. She was the daughter of a Quaker who lived in the Wyoming Valley during the Revolution. Several months after the massacre of 1778 she was caught up by a party of marauding Delaware Indians, who got off before any attempt could be made to rescue her. She was five years old at this time. About a month latter her father was shot dead by the Indians while at work in a field near his house. Knowing that he was gone to his eternal rest the widow in time became reconciled to her loss, but she could never forget her child, the last sight of which was when she was in the arms of a brawny Indian, struggling and calling piteously upon her parent to come to her help.

The sons of Mrs. Slocum became prosperous business men, and after the close of the Revolution they used every effort to recover their lost sister. In 1784 two of them visited Niagara where a large number of Indians were gathered, made diligent inquiries and offered liberal rewards for any information of her. They prosecuted the search for several weeks and returned home with the impression that she was dead.

The mother, however, could not be persuaded that such was the case, and four years later the Slocums spent several months in the West among the Indian agents and traders, publicly offering five hundred dollars to any one who would give any authentic information of the fate of their sister, but their success was no better than before. A similar expedition was undertaken in 1797 by four of the brothers, with the same result. As in the Ross case, the search brought numbers of stolen children to light, but none was the one particularly wanted.

Mrs. Slocum never lost faith in her daughter's existence. She belived she was somewhere waiting to be clasped in her arms, and she continued the search with unremitting assiduity until 1807, when she died, her children promising her to use every effort to learn what had become of the little one abducted nearly thirty years before. They faithfully carried out this pledge, and in 1826 made a long and expensive journey to upper Sandusky to see a woman who, there was no reason to hope, was the object of their long and searching. Disappointed again, they finally came to the conclusion that Frances was dead, and the search ended.

In the autumn of January 1835, Colonel George W. Ewing, a gentleman connected with the public service among the Indians, and able to speak several of their languages, was bringing some goods to a point known as The Deat Man's Village, on a branch of the Wabash. He applied for lodging, and was hospitably received at a respectable looking house. He was tired and unwell, and after eating lay down upon some skins in the corner. The household consisted of a venerable woman and a number of children, all of whom paid him the greatest deference, and who departed to their own rooms.

As Colonel Ewing lay upon his pallet he watched the old woman moving about, and noticed particularly the color of her skin and hair. The result of the scrutiny convinced him that she was a white woman, and the greatest excitement followed. She admitted that his suspicions were correct. She said that she was stolen by the Indians when a very small child, and she carefully concealed the fact that the color of her own race whom she met for fear that her relatives would come and take her away. She was now so old that she felt she would not live much longer, and many of her friends were living she would be glad to see them. In short, she was Frances Slocum, and she remembered distinctly the circumstances of her capture. She was a marked relief from some of the unpleasant symptoms she first day, and within a few weeks was entirely relieved. She has taken no tea since, and have had no return of the trouble."

But there is an adage that "what is one man's meat is another man's poison," and this applies to liquids as well as to solids. If inquiry were made, it would probably be ascertained that to some constitutions coffee is more useful than tea, while to others derive benefit from both. Intemperance in anything is bad, renders nourishings that in moderation nights are beneficial. One might suffer from eating too much bread and then argue that bread is a dangerous article of food.

B.

Brilliant Marriages.

As some families are remarkable for their success in politics, others for the number of sons they have supplied to the law and the army, so certain houses have been conspicuous for there success in what may be called the noble Profession of Marriage. Of course it is in the power of any one to repair some morning with a partner to the neighboring church, and there undergo the clergyman's pious ceremony form; to this easy feat we by no means refer. It is the grand *coups*, the splendid alliances, and, more prodigious still, the series of alliances by which a skilful manœuvre for her train of daughters, that extort a cry of admiration, and imply genius of the order of a Turenne or a Pitt. The name of the Hamilton Gordons was brought to mind with respect, owing to her skill in this department, and that dogged sense of "not knowing when she was beaten, which is the made boast of the British soldier and the British mother. This intrepid lady, whose daughters inherited nothing not even her personal beauty, contrived by her persevering manœuvres to secure as her in-law the Dukes of Richmond, Bedford, and Manchester, the Marquis Cornwallis, and a baronet; the last must have seemed to her much as a present to a forlorn old woman. Nay, it is said that when one of the dukes was seized with a mortal illness, after the preliminaries only had been arranged, she brought her daughter post haste to him to the last with a preconjugal devotion and fidelity, and within a year had arranged a new marriage with his brother and heir! We can hear her dying breath beneath the wistful exclamation of admiration of some less successful though equally incumbered matron reads this, and, as in the case of Dr. Lynn, the conjuror, wonders "how it's done."

But these prodigies are not unknown to our own time. It is curious that Scotch families should have won most distinction in this walk. Of yore, the Stuart great houses of Hamilton, like that of the Hapsburg—*in felix Austria nube*—has fortified itself in the most surprising way by connections with a line of illustrious Scotch. The present Duke of Abercorn was a simple Irish Marquis, with but a moderate income for a peer, and an average estate in the north of Ireland; but he came of a proud and aspiring stock. The late Marquis, who was Lady Morgan's patron, was one of the haughtiest men of his time; and as evidence of his state, it was reported that the sheets of his bed were of satin or silk, (the point is not of importance,) The present Marquis, whose name, not inappropriately, opens Sir Bernard Burke's grand roll of heraldry, claims to be Duke of Chatellerant in France, and is one of the three peers who have "disinct peerages in the three "kingdoms." He began by marrying the Duke of Bedfords daughter, then became a Knight of the Garter and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Of his daughters, one is married to the Earl of Lichfield, a second to the Earl of Durham, a third to the Earl of Dalkeith, who will be Duke of Buccleuch, a fourth to the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, a fifth to the Marquis of Lansdowne, a sixth to the Marquis of Blandford and future Duke of Marlborough. His three sons, too, are in the House of Commons, and his brother sat in the last Parliament.

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The work is under the supervision of two companies, one in New York, with a capital of seven million dollars, and another in New Jersey, with a capital of three millions, making a total capital of ten million dollars. It will be twenty-four feet high and twenty-six feet wide, inside measurement. At the centre ridge on the New Jersey shore it is to be about thirty-five feet below the surface, and at the point where it will strike the New York city shore it will be forty-five feet below. When it shall have been finished it is to be fitted up with double tracks, and trains will run at regular intervals for the accommodation of passengers. First cars are to be provided for horses and mules and other vehicles, and much of the freight from the great railway companies who own the shore front will be transported through it. Its walls are to be of brick, and will be three feet in thickness. When the river shall have been reached it is proposed to carry it on to completion by the construction of what, in tunnel architecture, are known as "locks"—air-tight passages—in which the pressure of the air will be sufficient to resist the water which will be outside until the walls shall have been completed. The excavation is to be accomplished through the agency of an air-tight tube. The pressure of the air is expected to remove the earth from the tunnel with the rapidity with which fifteen men could shovel it into cars, and it is to be carried by the same natural agent through a tube to the surface, thus saving the expense of laborers and transportation upon cars.—*Railway World.*

DISEASE IN THE TEAPOT.

The Cup that Cheers Not so Harmless, After All.

English literature is full of pleasant sayings about tea-drinking, and a recent essayist has collected a number of them:

Thackeray said: "Nature meant kindly by woman when it made her the tea plant." But it was Sidney Smith who exclaimed on his own behalf: "Thank God for tea! What would the world do without tea? I am glad I was not born before tea!" Leigh Hunt wrote: "Did it ever happen to you when the tea had been made for you alone to partake of a cup whose delicious fragrance has dwelt ever after on your palate like a vision of paradise? Such an instance occurred to me." Cowper has made immortal "the hissing urn." Dr. Parr and Robert Hall drank deeply from it. Goldsmith, Pope and Horace Walpole loved it more devotedly even than did Fanny Burney and Hannah More. Old Peppys, in 1640, made record in his "diary" of his first cup of tea. Charles Lamb made a pun on his tea chest—*Tea doces* (thou teachest?). Charles Lamb loved tea, and if it had been his only liquid love it would have been better for that gentlest of men. You are convinced already that tea is not altogether woman's. So, while I wait and watch for mine to "come to a boil"—not past it—I invite you to

——"come drink with me.
Both great and small (not too small), sup up your tea.
Fill up the pot; this draught, my dears,
Inebriates not, but only cheers.
Your nectar brown then freely pour
In spendthrift fashion, and call for more.
Your "Gunpowder," for all its name,
Fear not to stir; it won't inflame.
When not too strong, O my Pekoe!
O rare Souchong! O nice Kaisow!
Send may we be of the right Chinee!
But with Assam content will be
When we can't get the old Bohea!"

But modern researches in chemical and medical science seem to require a great change in popular ideas concerning the use of tea as a beverage. The Boston *Journal of Chemistry* for March gives an elaborate article under the caption of "Tea-ease in the Tea-Pot," which asserts that tea is not the simple, harmless beverage that is generally supposed; but that its effects, in their character, may be classed with those of tobacco and alcohol. Dr. Knaggs, of New South Wales, is cited as authority for the statement that the intemperate use of tea produces "mental excitement, precordial distress, acute pain and spasms in the region of the heart, sensation of faintness, an anxiety and feeling of approaching death, pulse irregular, feeble and unremitting; irregular and oppressive respiration, almost approaching asphyxia." And the *Journal of Chemistry* adds:

"Many disorders of the nervous system are the direct result of excessive tea-bibbing. Tea is a narcotic poison. Its essential principle, theine, is allied in composition and properties with strychnine and morphine. It first excites the nervous system, and finally paralyzes it. Experiments show that, both in man and other animals, it impairs power in the lower extremities; so that it affects the understanding in a double sense—literally as well as figuratively. It is not the harmless exhilarant it has been considered, but a powerful agent whose effects are often serious.

These alarming statements having attracted the attention of a correspondent of the Providence *Journal*, he is moved to contribute some account of his own experience. Thus:

"I had acquired the habit of drinking freely of English breakfast tea at each of the three meals a day. This was made by pouring boiling water on a liberal quantity of the tea, and drinking it immediately, sweetened, but without milk. I had no suspicion of any harm in it, but gradually found myself growing extremely weak, so that a walk of a short distance became a great task. At this was a formidable train of nervousness, impression, precordial distress, acute pains and spasms about the heart, sensation of faintness, an anxiety and feeling of approaching death and irregular and unrhythmical respiration. At the same time the pulse was extremely irregular, feeble, and intermitting, so that I intelligently believed I was sure that I had organic disease of the heart. Each one of the symptoms as given by Dr. Knaggs was vividly illustrated in my own experience. The mourning, for months since, it was suggested that possibly the tea might be injurious, and I took coffee instead. There was a marked relief from some of the unpleasant symptoms the first day, and within a few weeks I was entirely relieved. I have taken no tea since, and have had no return of the trouble."

But there is an adage that "what is one man's meat is another man's poison," and this applies to liquids as well as to solids. If inquiry were made, it would probably be ascertained that to some constitutions coffee is more useful than tea, while to others derive benefit from both. Intemperance in anything is bad, renders nourishings that in moderation nights are beneficial. One might suffer from eating too much bread and then argue that bread is a dangerous article of food.

B.

Brilliant Marriages.

As some families are remarkable for their success in politics, others for the number of sons they have supplied to the law and the army, so certain houses have been conspicuous for there success in what may be called the noble Profession of Marriage. Of course it is in the power of any one to repair some morning with a partner to the neighboring church, and there undergo the clergyman's pious ceremony form; to this easy feat we by no means refer. It is the grand *coups*, the splendid alliances, and, more prodigious still, the series of alliances by which a skilful manœuvre for her train of daughters, that extort a cry of admiration, and imply genius of the order of a Turenne or a Pitt. The name of the Hamilton Gordons was brought to mind with respect, owing to her skill in this department, and that dogged sense of "not knowing when she was beaten, which is the made boast of the British soldier and the British mother. This intrepid lady, whose daughters inherited nothing not even her personal beauty, contrived by her persevering manœuvres to secure as her in-law the Dukes of Richmond, Bedford, and Manchester, the Marquis Cornwallis, and a baronet; the last must have seemed to her much as a present to a forlorn old woman. Nay, it is said that when one of the dukes was seized with a mortal illness, after the preliminaries only had been arranged, she brought her daughter post haste to him to the last with a preconjugal devotion and fidelity, and within a year had arranged a new marriage with his brother and heir! We can hear her dying breath beneath the wistful exclamation of admiration of some less successful though equally incumbered matron reads this, and, as in the case of Dr. Lynn, the conjuror, wonders "how it's done."

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1875.

INTERNAL Revenue taxpayers would do well to remember that they must take out and pay for their special tax stamps, or licenses, before the first of May.

THE prospects for negotiating the new United States bonds in the hands of the syndicate are reported by the Treasury authorities to have considerably improved.

WHY not have a spelling match between the various aspirants for the Democratic Presidential nomination, and as each misses compel him to withdraw? That would be a real service to the country.

THE duties received on imports at the Philadelphia Custom House last week amounted to $333,574 60. The duties received during March aggregated $987,235 54, against $826,801 08 for the corresponding month last year, an increase of $160,-434 37.

THE Republicans of New Hampshire went into their fight upon a platform plainly and emphatically against a third term, and they were successful; the Republicans of Connecticut ignored the question, and have been beaten worse than ever. Comment is unnecessary.

SAYS a Western Democratic sheet: "If there is one thing under heaven that a Radical office-holder admires more than another, it is the grave of a Union soldier." And if there is one thing under heaven that a Bourbon editor admires more than another, it is the rebellious "cause" which has furrowed the country with loyal graves.

THE effect of the whisky tax imposed last session strengthened our revenue receipts during February and March, but they are now reported to be fast falling down to the usual average. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue thinks the distilleries will exhaust their supply of whisky that came under the old tax, by the end of the current fiscal year, after which the increased tax will considerably augment the revenues of the Government.

THE Chrome Steel Company, of New York, of which ex-Supervising Architect MULLETT is manager, is building up quite a heavy trade in Germany. It has beaten the best German and English steels in every test, and is rapidly coming into general use. This shows that our manufacturers are placing themselves in a position to compete with the world, and it is likely that the tests of American steel recently ordered, will show them to be fully equal, if not superior to the best imported.

THE New York *Herald*, with its customary enterprise, has been sending letters of inquiry to the Governors of the different States, asking for information as to what they propose to do toward furthering the celebration of the Centennial. In Monday's issue of that paper the replies of fourteen of these officials are given. Their tone is of an encouraging character, indicating a steadily increasing interest among the people in the great celebration, and showing that it is gaining influence and aid in quarters where it has had prejudice and opposition. The notable event bids fair to be commemorated in a manner worthy of the Republic.

CARDINAL MCCLOSKEY, being a Prince of the Church, is inclined to put on princely airs. He has ordered a "State" carriage, and the newspapers report the material, color, shape, fit, cost and elegance of his new clothes, and the magnificence of his red hat, just as if he were a real prince. We may add, for the benefit of the Associated Press reporters at New York, that we do not care what the Cardinal wears, nor what he does, and that a little more actual news, and a little less of MCCLOSKEY would be quite acceptable. It may suit some people to worship this kind of aristocracy; but we have determined not to put our trust in princes, and we have as little regard for the American kind as for any other.

UNDER the impression that they shall carry the country next year, the Democrats are already throwing out reactionary hints and feelers, in the direction of the unsettling of the results of the war. One of their Northern papers says: "That the country would be far better for the curtailing of some of the rights lately conferred upon the freedmen, no thoughtful person can doubt. There is nothing so dangerous to a republic as universal suffrage." When the record of that party is taken into consideration—how doggedly it resisted every effort to make the colored man a voter, to give him free schools, and throw around him the protection of citizenship—such utterances as the above take on an importance greater than inheres in reflective sayings, simply. They embody a purpose and embrace a threat, to be put into execution at the earliest opportunity.

THE law providing for a convention to revise the Constitution of North Carolina, passed by the Legislature of that State at its late session, was restrictive; that is to say, every delegate is required to subscribe to an oath not to do anything impairing the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments, or the Reconstruction acts, or in any way recognize the rebel debt, payment for slaves or abridging the terms of any of the present officeholders. The tarheel Democracy now, however, insist that these restrictions are wholly illegal and inoperative. This is exactly what was to have been looked for. Several weeks ago, it said that the only excuse for the assembling of the convention was to be found in the desire of the Democratic leaders of the State to return to the proscriptive constitutional forms which prevailed before the war. For saying so, we were sharply taken to task by a number of Bourbon sheets. What do they think of the case, now?

THE Republican party has been in power in Illinois since 1861, with one brief exception in 1862, and the Democratic Legislature elected in 1874 flattered itself that it would be able, by investigations, to uncearth a great deal of corruption during this fourteen years' rule. It has done its best, by investigating committees, to hunt out some evidence of wrong doing within that period; but in vain. No corruption has been found. The State has been faithfully and honestly governed; and the compliment paid by Governor ALLEN, of Ohio, to the Republican administrations which preceded him, that not a cent had been misapplied or misspent in that State during all the time the Republicans were in power, is just as applicable to Illinois. The Chicago *Tribune*, referring to the result of these investigations, says:

"Bourbon ingenuity can pick no flaw in the honesty of Republican rule in Illinois. Attempts to do so have utterly failed. It is a clean record, fourteen years long, which the Republican party submits to the people of Illinois."

THE Catholic clergy of Ohio seem to have entered the political field, openly, and mean to array their church as a political power. The Catholic *Telegraph*, of Cincinnati, the official organ of Archbishop PURCELL, publishes in its latest issue the following official command:

"The unbroken, solid vote of the Catholic citizens of this State will be given to the Democracy at the fall election."

The Archbishop himself, is not usually outspoken. In a recent conversation, speaking of the members of the Legislature who voted against the enactment of the Geghan bill, he said:

"We shall judge them by their own record, out of their own mouths we shall condemn them, if possible, to the retirement of private life. They assailed us in the dearest and most sacred rights of manhood: and we shall hold them to a strict accountability. *They have dug their political graves; it will not be our fault if they do not fill them.*

"*When any of them appear again in the political arena we will put upon them a brand that every Catholic citizen will understand.* On the other hand, Catholics will never forget those who were not swayed by the sectarian madness of the hour; who strongly plaidied their views on the side of right and fair play in the Geghan bill, defied intimidation; who were proof against the corruption of bigotry; who saw the right and unswervingly adhered to it. We shall be their political friends in the hour of need."

The Cleveland *Leader* of Tuesday gives an instance of the practical operation of this threat. Referring to the election on Monday last, it says:

"Mr. Martin Foran, Democratic candidate for City Prosecutor, found out yesterday how it proves to be one of the men with a brand upon him that the Catholics understand. While a member of the Constitutional Convention, last year, Mr. Foran opposed with great ability and clearness the proposition to abolish that clause of the Constitution which prohibits the division of the school fund for sectarian purposes. Although a devout Catholic, Mr. Foran had the sense to see that this high-handed, grasping policy which inspires the effort to divide the school fund, was contrary to the spirit of free education, and would in the end be disastrous to his church. Mark now the sequel. By that act Mr. Foran made himself a marked man. Yesterday, at ten o'clock, Father Smyth, the Catholic member of the Board of Education, appeared at the polls of the Eighth ward, and forbade the Catholic voters there to vote for Mr. Foran. From that moment every Catholic voter scratched the name of Foran. We see in all this how the priest at the discipline of the Catholics, how deadly is their enmity toward every man in public life whom they cannot use. We are coming to a plain, direct issue with the Jesuits in this country one of these days."

SCIENTIFIC DELUSION—THE EARTH FLAT—THE SUN ONLY 700 MILES OFF.

The scientific men have been so aggressive, for a year or so past, and so positive in their declarations of what they call scientific truths, that we have at times indulged in the suspicion that they would, sooner or later, be brought up with a round turn by some mental AJAX, able to defy them all. And here he is. The author of the following commuaication challenges the whole array, and knocks the current scientific theories into flinders. The earth is not a globe, but a circular plane; it does not revolve around the sun, but the sun around it, and the latter is only seven hundred miles distant! The folly of going to China and Kerguelen's Land to get a look at the transit of Venus over the face of the sun, so as to determine the distance of the earth from the sun is completely exposed. Read the communication and judge for yourselves. This is not the first of April, and we assure our readers that the article below is genuine. It comes to us with a responsible name attached, and its author is just as thoroughly convinced of *his* theory as Prof. LANGLEY can be of his. We have been inclined to place some credit in the assurance of GALILEO that the world *does* move; but now that "PARALLAX" has shot his castor into the ring, we shall hold our conclusions on that subject, in suspense:

"TRANSIT OF VENUS."

CANTON, O., April 5, 1875.

Mr. Editor—In your issue of the 3d inst., I notice in your special dispatch from Washington, that your correspondent, referring to the above named subject, says that "the observing parties arriving home do not speak very highly of the value of the photographic views of the transit, and whispers are heard that the views cannot be relied upon as the basis of computations."

It is pitiful in the extreme that after so many years of almost unopposed indulgence, philosophers, instead of beginning to seek, before everything else, the true constitution of things, which they are still to be seen laboring only to frame hypotheses, and to reconcile phenomena with imaginary and ever-shifting foundations. Their labor is great indeed, and they perpetuate the self-deception of their predecessors. Surely the day is not far distant when the very complications which their numerous theories have created, will awake them into wakefulness, and convince them that for long ages past they have been but idly dreaming! Time wasted, energies thrown away, truth obscured, and falsehood rampant, constitute a charge so grave that coming generations will look upon them as the bitterest enemies of civilization, the heaviest drags on the wheels of progress, and the most offensive embodiment of frivolity, pride of learning and canting formality; worse than this—by their position, their standing in the front ranks of learning, they deceive the public. They appear to represent a solid phalanx of truth and wisdom, when in reality they are but as the lifeless ice of an hour's induration—all surface, without substance, or depth, or reliability, or power to save from danger and ultimate destruction.

Let the practice of theorizing be abandoned as one oppressive to the reasoning powers, fatal to the full development of truth, and, in every sense, inimical to the solid precept of sound philosophy.

If to ascertain the true figure of the earth, and its distance from the sun, let them adopt the "Zetetic" process which I say is the only one that will indefinitely reliably. We shall then find that this earth is not a globe, and that the sun cannot possibly be ninety-five millions of miles away. But that the earth is a circular plane, the center being the north pole, and situated under the north star. This central region is all ice, and the southern extremity is bounded by ice in every direction.

The sun revolves round this north center over the earth at a distance of not more than seven hundred miles from where he is vertical. This distance differs from the popular calculation, because, in the latter case, the base of the triangle being the diameter of the earth's orbit, is an assumption that remains unproved and because the angles are calculated on the assumption that the earth is a globe. The true distance is ascertained by taking a measured base line, and making no allowance for rotundity in measuring the angles.

In conclusion I would say that the age is getting too pseudonymous to endure this insult to our understanding. The press has hitherto been overawed by the terror of the scientific schools, and have consistently closed their columns against all discussion on the subject. The professors have felt that any agitation would be fatal to their system, and that their only chance of delaying ignominious exposure was to observe an unbroken silence, and to urge the press to sneer and laugh down all who dare attempt any agitation on the subject. Thus they have ensconced themselves behind the illogical argument that because "everybody believes this," and "nobody doubts that," till they have persuaded the world that the opinion of the received opinion must be regarded as a proof of insanity, and deserving only of utter contempt and scorn.

Yours respectfully, PARALLAX.

INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE AFFAIRS.

Nearly every newspaper in the country has lately devoted a part of its columns to the discussion of the act of Mr. JAMES LICK, of San Francisco, in revoking a trust made by him last year for specific purposes therein named.

It has not seemed to occur to any one of the many who have made Mr. LICK's course a subject of comment, that Mr. LICK is a private citizen of San Francisco; that his property is his own; that he has a right to do as he pleases with it; and that it is really no concern of the public what he does with it, nor to whom he gives it, nor for what purpose.

If Mr. LICK sought publicity for his acts, the case would be somewhat different; but of that we have no proof. The probabilities are that he went about the work of disposing of his property in his lifetime in a quiet, unostentatious way, making no parade or ado about it; and that, having afterwards ascertained that there were relatives of his, living, who had claims upon his bounty, he found it necessary to reconstruct his trust so as to do no injustice to his relatives. It was a private affair of his own, exclusively, with which the public has, and can have, nothing to do.

But, then, was it unearthed? Simply to gratify a morbid curiosity. Why is it now discussed in nearly every newspaper of the land, and why is odium heaped upon him for doing as he had a right to do with his own? Simply because everything like individual privacy is now ignored, and the press claims the right, or exercises, if it does not claim it, to regard every man's private business as a proper subject of newspaper discussion.

It assumes the part of ASMODEUS, lifts the roof from every house, and pries into every chamber and secret spot within. It wants to know what everybody thinks, says or does; to describe the courses at dinner, the dishes upon which they are served, the guests who sit at table, the dresses worn by each, and the furniture of the rooms. It wants to know to whom your eldest girl is betrothed, when the marriage is to come off, how much you are going to give her, what she is going to wear, who will act as bridesmaids, what clergyman will perform the ceremony, and how much the prospective husband is worth. If BROWN has been somewhat attentive to your second daughter, it wants to know all about BROWN, and what his intentions are. If your daughters give a party, it must know all the particulars and publish them. If you have fallen down in a faint upon the street, and have shortly afterwards sent for PROTOCOL, the lawyer, it must be to make your will, and why should not its contents be made known?

We protest, for one, against this tendency of the press to invade the domains of private life. If the legend of the law be true, that every man's house is his castle, and that no man, not even the king, can cross its threshhold without his leave, why, then, in heaven's name, let it *be* his castle, in fact as well as in name—a place where he can feel free from any intrusion but such as he chooses to permit. The frogs of Egypt, that came up into the chambers and kneading troughs of the Egyptians, were not a greater pest than the pencils which thrust their sharp points into every cranny, and make every man's private concerns the subject of public scrutiny. There are plenty of subjects for newspaper discussion that are of public importance; and if this paucity in the taste for personal details of men in private life is but ministering to a depraved appetite which grows upon what it feeds on.

We take the case of Mr. LICK as a representative one. He wanted to do as he pleased with what it was his alone to bestow, and all at once he finds himself arraigned before ten thousand self-constituted tribunals, each of which sits in judgment upon him and condemns him. By what right? Who clothed them with this power? He is but a private citizen, managing his own business in his own way. He has not voluntarily challenged public attention, nor in any way invoked the public judgment; and having been engaged in a matter in which he alone had any right to act, he is entitled to immunity from a public discussion of what he has chosen to do.

THE RESULT OF ABANDONING HOME RULE.

The people of the District of Columbia had a local government, a year or two since, which managed the local affairs of the District, levied the taxes, carried on public improvements, maintained the police, and attended to all the petty details of city government. But, suffrage was universal; and the blue-blooded aristocrats could not brook the idea of being ruled in their local affairs by negroes and non-property holders. They protested that their taxes were enormous; that they were crushed by their burdens; and that there was no hope for their escape so long as universal suffrage was adhered to. They therefore besought Congress to wipe out the local government altogether, and give them a Commission of eminent men to carry on the government under powers conferred upon it by Congress. The sensational press aided them in this request by the manufacture of blood-and-thunder stories, and Congress, under the lead of such demagogues as FOSTER, of Ohio, WILSON, of Indiana, and PHELPS, of New Jersey, gave the blue-blooded politicians just what they asked for—a Commission with full executive powers, backed up by a new tax law to which, while it was under consideration, they made no objection.

For a while the swallow-tailed gentry were happy. They had got rid of universal suffrage. They were no longer in terror of being taxed by non-property holders, and they had a Commission of three eminent gentlemen, to whom no one could take exceptions. The vulgar theory that the right of self-government belongs to the people had been exploded; and the right of the minority to rule being thus established, they felt that a great principle had been vindicated, and they could therefore rest easy and contented.

Their ease and contentment, however, were of short duration. At this present writing they are far from being happy. The tax law passed by Congress is more burdensome and grinding, it seems, even than the taxes imposed under the sway of popular suffrage, and the Commission finds itself powerless to remedy the evil. It has no legislative powers, and can merely execute the laws as it finds them. The blue-bloods and swallow-tails are in despair. They have held public meetings; passed resolutions; appointed committees; consulted attorneys; and have kicked up a terrible fuss, generally; yet no door of relief is opened to them. They have made their bed; and human ingenuity cannot save them from lying in it.

We sympathize with these poor tax-payers, in view of the heaviness of their self-imposed burden; but we are not sorry that they have thereby been taught a wholesome lesson. In their eagerness to get rid of a government which they could not control, they trampled under foot the sacred right of the people to manage their own affairs in their own way; and in resorting, as they were compelled to do when they voluntarily abandoned this right, to the absolute authority of Congress, they shut their own mouths against any effort at remonstrance. A people which voluntarily gives up its own privileges, has no right to complain, when it feels the heavy hand of the authority it has itself invoked.

The right of local self-government is the only protection which any community has against imposition. There may be great difficulty, sometimes, in securing this protection; but the remedy for that does not consist in throwing it off altogether. The nabobs of Washington were naturally restive under the rule of men who, but a few years ago, were their slaves; but that grew out of a want of faith in the Democratic principle of human rights, rather than out of any wrongs inflicted upon them; and they are very justly punished for their haste in abandoning a great principle solely to gratify their prejudices and personal dislikes.

THE late phenomenal winter, with its long-sustained, excessive cold, is now happily past. In a recent report of Dr. HARRIS, Registrar of Vital Statistics for New York city, he says, in speaking of the exceptional character of the season, alike in that and other cities from which he receives mortuary returns, that everywhere, from Shreveport, in Louisiana, to Stockholm, in Northern Europe, a noticeable increase in the death rate marked the continuance and follows in the wake of the winter. He says:

"It has been especially heavy in deaths from pneumonia and other pulmonary diseases. The weather has been very cold, and also saturated with moisture at all times. The temperature and humidity indicate any specially low temperature, the skin and mucous membranes of the lungs, throat and other passages suffered on account of the intensely cold and dry atmosphere. In New York city the total percentage of deaths will be from 12 to 15 per cent. additional, and in the special classes of diseases most liable to be affected more doubled. Fees cases have been very rare. Typhoid has been almost a matter of chance. In diphtheria the mortality has assumed the virulence of an epidemic. Our reports from Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Liverpool, Dublin, Vienna and Hamburg all show that this particular class of diseases have been especially fatal there. Europe has been more fortunate, owing to the admirable sanitary regulations in force there."

Dr. HARRIS considers that the effects of the winter have not stopped yet, by any means, and he estimates that about as many as have already succumbed will date their death sickness from colds contracted during the recent cold spell. For the next fifteen years, he says, consumption will carry off persons whose lungs first showed the germs of tubercular deposits this past winter. This is a serious side of the question, and people who have colds should hasten to get rid of them as speedily as possible, by breathing pure dry air and getting their whole system in sound health.

STATE NEWS.

Harrisburg duck hunters are having a good run of luck.

Much of the wheat in Erie county has been winter killed.

Many fatal cases of scarlet fever are reported at Jamestown.

Five hundred and ten building permits were issued in Philadelphia in March.

The boys of Reading are prohibited by ordinance from flying kites in the streets.

Erie county has paid $18,000 to maintain poor and indigent persons during the past three months.

A man in Lower Augusta, Northumberland county, caught 800 pigeons in one day, last week.

Work will be resumed on the new post-office building, in Philadelphia, as soon as the weather will permit.

The Birdsboro *Pioneer* contains the following pithy appeal to its readers: "Pay up—thunderation, pay up."

Robert Howard, a colored man, and a horse he was riding, were drowned at Huntingdon on the 2d inst.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Breinig, of Breinigsville, Lehigh county, celebrated their golden wedding on the 3d inst.

The Irish citizens will hold a John Mitchel demonstration in the Chestnut Street Theater, next Sunday evening.

Phillip A. Small, for many years one of the leading millers and merchants of this State, died at his residence in York on Saturday.

On Wednesday last a tumor was removed from Mrs. Thomas Phillips, Uwchlan, Chester county, which weighed twenty-nine pounds.

A swindler has been victimizing the officials of Erie county by selling them what seemed to be steel pens, but which were made of tin.

The next fair of the Highland Agricultural Society will be held at Johnstown, on the last three days of September and the first day of October.

The Mayor of Lancaster has offered a twenty-five dollar gold pen and holder as a prize to be given to the winner in a "spelling bee," to be held in that city.

The family of Louis Wehn, of Johnstown, came very near losing their lives on Saturday night, from suffocation by escaping gas. They were discovered just in time.

William S. Young, the oldest publisher and printer in Philadelphia, died on the 3d inst., in the seventy-first year of his age. His father printed the first Bible in Pennsylvania.

Robert W. Smith, Esq., of Wrightsville, Lancaster county, has held the office of justice of the peace for thirty-seven years, having been appointed by Governor Ritner in 1838.

Mrs. Elizabeth Talbot, of Honeybrook township, Chester county, filled her ice house with ice twenty-four inches thick, clear and solid, on the 25th of March. So uncommon an occurrence is worthy of record.

Consternation has been spread in the Philadelphia Fire Department by the dismissal of some sixty members of the paid force, for reasons not specified, but evidently not partisan.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Short and sweet. The New England maple sugar crop.

During his long pontificate Pius IX. has buried 104 cardinals.

The latest word-mongering outrage is "disestablishmentarian."

What's in a name? The meekest man in St. Louis is called Muchwrath.

The spell-zootic will probably be succeeded by a chirographic mania.

"Lightning peckers" is what they now call telegraph operators for short.

Civil Rights. A colored boy was the victor in a recent Iowa spelling match.

The Canadian authorities have done wisely in selling their last lake gunboat.

Massachusetts sentimentalists are trying to prevent the use of sewing machines in prisons.

Chicago is a spirited place. It spends two million dollars a month on intoxicating liquors.

Preparations for approaching contests are being made on a large scale by Eastern turfmen.

Wild ducks are swarming in the open places on the Western lakes, and are shot by hundreds.

England proposes to introduce street cars moved by means of clock work. They will run regularly.

The kind of air they have down South, these days, is "heavy with the fragrance of jessamine."

The Chinese persimmon has been introduced into California. It is said to possess a celestial flavor.

The Leavenworth *Times* informs its readers that Catholics in New Hampshire are "illegible" to office.

Teaching convicts a trade is the only sort of compulsory education against which there is no objection.

The recently captured Todd county (Ky) Ku-Klux nearly all confessed, and will all go to the penitentiary.

It is no wonder that trade is reviving in Boston. The papers of that city are crowded with advertisements.

Was it accident? Two court houses, with valuable records, have been destroyed in Ohio within two weeks.

One peculiarity and merit of Protestantism is that it everywhere fosters and cultivates the vernacular dialects.

Since the State became Democratic one half of Texas has grown disgusted with the other half and wants a divorce.

Down in Viaginia they are beginning to think of lamb and green peas, and the dogs have begun to think of mutton.

The Hudson river is breaking up, and at New York new life is being infused into all the veins and arteries of commerce.

The South Wales strikers are enduring extreme privations, the women and children of course being the chief sufferers.

The question of reviving the *National Intelligencer* is discussed by friends in Washington of that ancient journalistic fossil.

Wouldn't a French spelling match be a good thing for these fashion and high life reporters who use so much of that language?

The spelling school has not reached New Orleans yet. Bishop Wilmer says the "right of confirmation will be administered."

The next annual meeting of the American Social Science Association will commence at Detroit, May 11th, and continue four days.

The complex English balloting system, which has been on trial only a year or two, is to be investigated by a Parliamentary committee.

The English Council of Foreign Bondholders announces that arrangements have been made to liquidate and adjust the State debt of Alabama.

The New York Catholics are urged to remember that they must make Cardinal McCloskey a big present on account of his new Cassock.

This is the season of the year when Methodist ministers think of moving. Where, is generally left to Providence, aided by a church committee.

A New York coal company is about beginning to mine anthracite coal at Dora, Va., their lands amounting to over a hundred thousand acres.

Hippophagy is making rapid progress in France on account of the scarcity of beeves and the exorbitant prices now demanded for all sorts of meats.

Growing healthier. The total number of deaths in Chicago last year was 8,025, a decrease of 1,532 compared with 1873, and 2,144 compared with 1872.

It never rains but it pours. The relations between the Countess Guiccioli and Lord Byron are to be made the subject of a forthcoming publication.

London papers attribute the success of Messrs. Moody and Sankey principally to the musical capabilities of the latter, who is an excellent hymn singer.

The ship owners of Norway, in the Quebec trade, have determined to lay up their ships this spring in consequence of the present low rates of freight.

Democratic candidates for the Presidency are becoming as numerous as Italian organ-grinders. The indigenous and windy Lamar, of Mississippi, is the latest.

The lower branch of the South Carolina Legislature voted a gratuity of $500 to the chaplain for praying *"with credit to himself and satisfaction to the House."*

They lately fined a man in France for a libel written with a sharp stick on a green pumpkin growing in a field. The indictment should have been squashed.

The Indiana Supreme Court has gravely decided that "there is no difference in saying that 'the liquor was intoxicating' and saying that it was 'intoxicating liquor.'"

Mrs. Oswald Ottendorfer, of New York, has donated $100,000 for the establishment of a Home for Aged and Infirm Persons of the Evangelical Lutheran denomination.

The Cincinnati papers are crowded with advertisements, which shows that people may be wise, notwithstanding that they do elect a Democratic municipal goverament.

The Millerites now assert that the world will positively come to an abrupt conclusion on June 15. Professor Tice, of St. Louis, also predicts terrific cyclones about that time.

Notwithstanding that the English are going to make a cannon which will throw a ball thirteen miles, the cheapest way is to get close up to a man and knock him down with a club.

It is said that fifty per cent. of the nurserymen of Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa, with nearly as large a proportion of those of Missouri and Minnesota, are either bankrupt or badly crippled.

The Supreme Court of Rhode Island has held that every owner of land through which water flows is entitled to receive the water, uncorrupted in quality, from riparian proprietors above him.

Last month there arrived at the port of New York 6,477 immigrants, of whom 4,203 were males and 2,274 females; against 6,058 immigrants 4,018 being males and 3,040 females, during March 1874.

A number of persons who have for years been carrying on extensive operations in forging deeds and bleeding property owners by casting a cloud upon their titles, have lately been arrested in Illinois.

There are about eight hundred miles of canal and slack water navigation in Ohio, burdened also with a canal ring; but they are leased and pay expenses, though under State management they cost about $100,000 a year.

A compliment to be proud of. Professor Proctor, the astronomer, says: "There must be in America at least three times as great a proportion of reading and thinking men to the entire population as there is in England."

Those three young German girls lately recaptured from the Indians will be taken care of for life by the Government. The Indians who massacred the girls' parents are to be sent to Florada, and held as prisoners of war.

Facts are constantly proving what a lucrative profession journalism is. A young Kentucky editor, whose paper is small and has been in existence but a short time, has already $25,000 cash in hand—just left him by a relative.

The Washington City Savings bank, which failed eighteen months ago, has just paid an additional fifteen per cent. on its indebtedness, in all seventy-five per cent. since that time. The assets yet to be realized will pay the full amount of the deposits.

There are about as many designing or indolent persons living off the contributions of workingmen to their "Unions," as there are offices in each organization to be filled by them. This is a matter which every workingman in the country would do well to study.

The Warwick furnace at Reading, Pa., was blown in on Monday.

PERSONAL.

Theodore Tilton has been invited to deliver the address at the Morrisville, Vermont, Fourth of July celebration.

The English *Court Circular*, of March 20th, says that "Mr. Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., son of the President of the United States, was among the persons presented at the court."

The wife of ex-Secretary of the Treasury Sawyer died at Malden, Mass., on the first instant. She was a most estimable woman, and returned but a few weeks since from a two years' sojourn in Europe.

If the Emperor of Brazil settles in the United States and engages in any business, there will be a good job for some enterprising sign painter. His full name is Pedro Giovanni Carlo Leopoldo Salvador Bidiano Francois Xavier de Paul Leocardio Michel Gabriel Raphael Gonzagne.

Horace Maynard, recently appointed United States Minister to Turkey, is a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, and a Vice President of the American Bible Society. The journal of that society, the *Record*, says that in his appointment "the friends of religious liberty have occasion to rejoice."

Mr. D. L. Gibbs, of Salem, Oregon, who claims to be an inventor of a process which makes cracked bells give forth as clear a tone as ever, is now on his way to Philadelphia to make an experiment on the famous Liberty bell, whose joyous clang was broken while announcing freedom to the people nearly one hundred years ago.

Vice President Wilson is about to start on an extended trip through a portion of the country he has never visited. Going first directly to St. Louis he will proceed from there to Arkansas, where he will spend about a week. Returning he will go to Memphis, Nashville, Louisville and other places in the South, intending to be absent about three weeks. He will go to Europe for the entire summer, sailing about the last of the month.

Monday's New York papers relate the particulars of an extraordinary case of poisoning. The subject was Professor F. W. Walker, of Brooklyn, who took hemlock for a disease of the nerves, and when he found himself sinking from an overdose of the drug, dictated to his wife, in the interest of science, a dying statement of the effects. Poisoning by hemlock was frequently used by the Athenians as a State method of execution, and by the description Professor Walker gave of his sufferings, we know that the last agony of Socrates was terrible.

A curious illustration of the vicissitudes of fortune was the re-employment by Mayor Wickham, of New York, last week, of a woman named Mrs. Thompson as scrub-woman, who, since she occupied that position, some years ago, has driven in her carriage and had liveried servants to wait on her. Her husband took the contract to supply the marble for A. T. Stewart's new residence. The contract was made before the war, and resulted in the financial ruin of Mr. Thompson, whose mind became affected by his losses, and he died insane, and now his wife is restored to her humble position.

As to the source of Tilton's lawyers' fees, "Burleigh" writes to the Boston *Journal*: "The story is that a wealthy lady in New York was at one time an ardent supporter of the woman's rights movement. To it she gave time and money. Among the foremost she moved, among the most advanced she stood; but when the doctrine and practices of free love were grafted on she stepped out. Once or twice the name of this woman has been mentioned in the trial. She was so greatly agitated that she was granted side talks with her lawyer. It was the purpose of Tilton to put this person on the stand. The threat so excited her that she agreed to give a handsome sum to carry on the trial if she would go alone. The amount paid varies. Some put it at $5,000, others name $10,000 as the sum."

The New York *Herald* of Tuesday gives an interesting sketch of the oldest lawyer in the country, and perhaps in the world, "Gen. Elbert, Herring, who hast just celebrated his ninety-eighth birthday. He remembers New York when the city did not extend much beyond Ann street, when the most fashionable people resided below Wall street, when Bridewell jail stood on the site of City Hall, and when the city was not half the size of Allegheny. Mr. Herring has lived in New York for more than sixty years. He was admitted to the bar in 1798, and was a judge of the Marine Court the year Napoleon became Emperor of France. Charles O'Conor, now an old and illustrious man, was a student in the office. Mr. Herring was also Commissioner of Indian Affairs—the first that ever held that position.

A ludicrous affair happened at the Patent Office the other day. Mr. Morgan, the father of the famous Baltimore quartet, which created such a furore. So scratching of Desks or marking of the same in any way or any of the School furniture.

5th) Children must render strict Obedience to their teacher.

6th) all children that willful brake any of theas Rules must be punished by thair teacher in any way she may See fit provided it Shall be in acordene with the primary School laws.

A NEW YORK paper recently printed a wondrous scheme for preventing floods on the Lower Mississippi, which has been extensively copied in the Southern press. The scheme gravely proposes the building of eighty dams "at an estimated cost of less than $500,000" (!!) on that upper Mississippi, which dams are to turn 14,392 square miles of swamp into a big reservoir. Then, when a flat boat wants to go down the river, an inch of water will be let out to float it down. When there is danger of a flood at New Orleans, however, the reservoirs will be tight, and so, says the veracious journal, all the danger will be removed! There are one or two little objections to this plan. In the first place, the Upper Mississippi is a third-class stream, and a flood which would sweep the eighty dams to Jericho would not by itself raise the water-level at New Orleans six inches. Then, again, the floods in the lower part of the river are due to those on the Ohio, Missouri, Arkansas, and Red rivers. Unless a man with a tin pail is detailed to dip up each of these streams before it reaches the Mississippi, we four Southern plantations would not be safe. However, if the plan is adopted, the ears of the genius who devised it would do exceedingly well for two of the dams.—*Chicago Tribune.*

THE large population of the British Islands and the comparatively smalli breadth of land devoted to agricultural production has made the British people dependent upon outside contributions for deficiencies of their food supply. The estimate is made that in 1874, the value of cattle, dairy produce, provisions and grain imported into the British Islands equalled, if it did not exceed the entire agricultural rental of the kingdom. Since 1840, so steadily have the food imports been growing, that the importation of breadstuffs has increased five-fold; of barley, nearly that much; of oats, seven-fold; of butter and cheese, six-fold, and of provisions, fifty-fold. The United States have been contributing the greater part of this outside supply to Great Britain

THE ICE TERROR.

Breaking Up of the Great Gorge.

At Port Blanchard, where the upper end of the Wilkesbarre gorge commenced, the river appeared to be slowly rising. At Macay Island, three miles below Pittston, a very thrilling spectacle was seen. Here, between the banks, welded together in a frigid embrace, was the icy debris of two mighty gorges—the Ransom gorge, which came down last night, and the Wilkesbarre gorge. The two held the ice which had formed for one hundred miles up the river. The blocks were interlaced and locked together in rigid deformation, and were piled into the air in many places twenty feet high. While looking upon this large accumulation a loud, cracking report, as of distant thunder, came from a point a quarter of a mile below the island. Immediately this was followed by repeated cracking sounds near by. This occurred at a point two miles below the Pittston end of the gorge. In a very short time after these reports were heard the whole upper portion of the gorge became detached, and the waters bubbled up, tossing and rocking the crystal cakes madly about. Subsequently the water began to pour over the anchored portion of the ice furiously, while the disintegrated blocks were dashed upon and over it. Not many moments passed before this tremendous power was felt by the lodged ice, against which it was pressing, and the whole mass began to move. Within fifteen minutes the immense field was staggering slowly onward in a final dissolution. As the mass moved out, it passed safely under the covered toll bridge at Wilkesbarre. It was feared that a part of the wreck of the gorge would strike and damage the Wilkesbarre bridge, but this was not the case, as the timbers floated under without interfering with the structure in the least.

The water has fallen twelve feet, and some fears are entertained that, should it continue to drop down, it will be impossible for the ice to get over the shallow rifts abounding in the river in the neighborhood; but all real danger from further depredations by the flood is conceded to be over.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The strike of the puddlers of the Allentown Rolling Mill Company still continues, with no prospect of a compromise.

The Miners' Union has interdicted the loading of any more coal dirt in Schuylkill county for shipment to New York.

It is reported in the daily papers that 50,000 bags of flour were recently purchased for the miners in the Lehigh region with which to feed the strikers' children.—*Hazleton Sentinel.*

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company's rolling mill, in Cumberland, Maryland, turned out, last week, one thousand and five tons of rails, and two hundred tons of bar iron, making the heaviest week's work ever done at the mill since its establishment.

A New York correspondent says: Between now and the 1st of May the indications are that we shall have a very general movement on the part of the leading trades against the return to eight hours as the regular day's work. Employers are very generally uniting on this condition.

The Master Mechanic of the Pennsylvania Railroad shops at Altoona, has issued an order notifying the employees that working time will consist of ten hours. A large additional force of employees have been furnished with work, and it is presumed that times will now improve in the Mountain City.

The Manufacturers' Board of Trade at Fall River, Massachusetts, have decided to advance the wages of the weavers to twenty-seven cents per cut on and after the first Monday in April, thus returning to the prices paid previous to January. This advance is based wholly on the improvement in the print cloth market, and will be governed by it.

The Delaware River Iron Shipbuilding and Engine Works Company, of Philadelphia, have erected an immense frame structure, to be used as a rolling mill, for the manufacture of boiler and ship iron, principally used at Chester, Pa. The dimensions of the main building are 100 by 185 feet, with a connecting wing on the river front 72 by 93 feet, with a height of 25 feet to the square. A new brick building is to be added to the main building on the northwest, to be used as a machine and pattern house. The entire building is covered with a strong, substantial slate roof, making a massive and lofty appearance from the river front.

On the Lehigh Valley Railroad the cost for running a coal train the round trip, from Mauch Chunk to Easton, and return the empty cars, one hundred miles, is stated thus: Engineer, $3 50; fireman, $2 50; brakemen, $8; wiper, $1 50; oil, waste and packing, $3 69; wear and tear, $25; total, $42 19. The additional cost for running a passenger train of six cars the round trip is $18 80, making $60 99. To these items is to be added the cost of three and a quarter tons of coal for a coal train and two and a half tons for a passenger train, wood, water, switch tenders, dispatchers, &c., amounting to about $26, and raising the whole cost to $70 for a coal train and $86 99 for a passenger train.

The quantity of coal sent from the Schuylkill region for the last week was 9,278 tons, against 85,692 tons for the corresponding week last year. Decrease, 76,414 tons. The supply sent from the regions from which we have received returns for the week is as follows: Anthracite, 57,532 tons bituminous; for the week, 101,789 tons, against 218,810 tons for the corresponding week last year. The supply sent from all the regions so far this year is 2,738,562 tons, against 3,464,352 tons to the same period last year. Decrease, 725,990 tons. They are making great efforts in the bituminous regions, says the *Miners' Journal*, to push coal into the market at reduced rates of transportation. The price of anthracite has not yet advanced, and the hands of a few of the companies, who have lots of the kinds wanted, and which they have advanced some. The associated companies adhere to the rates according to the programmes.

According to the last advices from Europe per mail all the operatives in what is known as the Dowsbury woolen district in England had quit work, either on a strike or lock-out. The difficulty originated in an attempt on the part of the employers to adopt a uniform schedule of rates and wages in the place of the fluctuating system that at present prevails. The manufacturers disavow any intention to reduce wages, and contend that the average earnings will be as much under the new system as the old. But the men fail to see the question in this light, and many of them quit work. These difficulties of the woolen manufacturers are of such a character as not to admit of easy solution. For some time past the English woolen trade has been in an depressed a condition as in the United States. The firmness in the price of wools and the stagnation in both the home and foreign markets has brought down the profits of the business to a very low point. The probabilities are that in many cases the manufacturers are inclined to welcome a condition of affairs that involves a temporary reduction of supplies.

POLITICAL.

State

An exchange says that "Andy Johnson has refused to stump Pennsylvania this fall in the interest of the Democratic party. That's a happy thing for the Democracy.

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 10, 1875.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 7, 1875.

The active exchanges manifested by the greatly increased volume of business doing by the Clearing House and over the counters of the banks, are for the most part found upon investigation to be due to contracts made some time since, comparatively little trade being done at present. It is a time of too great uncertainty as to the future prospect, to offer much encouragement to fresh enterprise, and thus owners of capital continue to hibernate themselves, notwithstanding the fact that the weather is bright and sunny enough to induce them to come out from their shells.

The iron question still remains in doubt with prospects, however, of some arrangement being made before long, whereby resumption can be effected, and nothing would so greatly conduce to our business prosperity, as the final settlement of this dispute.

The immediate effect of a resuming of the mills in and around Pittsburgh, considered in its financial aspect, would probably be a tightening of the money market, at least temporarily. Many borrowers would be thrown upon the market at once, as the iron men although in funds now to a much larger extent than their present needs would demand, yet have not all the money that will be required for the immense orders that may be expected to pour in upon commencing manufacture once again. Starting friction is known as the greatest universally, and the amount already money which would easily float a trade at high tide is quite insufficient for the same volume of trade when, as now, at the ebb.

Nevertheless the resumption may be so gradual as not to seriously affect the money market, and even if it should be temporarily tightened, all the indications point towards easy money, at any rate until the fall business sets in.

It is noticeable that in spite of the present plethora, investments of a permanent nature are not in demand. Call loans may be had to almost any extent and at low rates, but stocks, bonds and other securities continue as low or lower than when money was at one per cent. with us.

Few transactions are to be noted in real estate and of the few, the majority are cases of barter and not buying and selling.

OFFICE OF TRADE & STOCK, }
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET, }
PITTSBURGH, April 7, 1875. }

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Our stock market opened in full sympathy with the heaviness of last night, but it was soon apparent that the decline was intended as a "scoop" and served the purpose of the projectors. A reaction followed and the market was discovered by this movement. Prices quickly reacted and remained firm without material change, but the first part of the day when rumors of defalcations in Japan and the announcement that the Panama Company had given Pacific Mail the required ninety days' notice of their intention to annul the contract now existing between them caused an active selling movement, large blocks of stocks being thrown on the market in sympathy with the weakness developed in Pacific Mail the market generally became depressed, and prices sagged off and remained heavy until the close.

As there was no apparent disposition to unload prior to this, we are inclined to believe that the market will quickly recover from the decline, and if it is so we suggest a strategic movement to "shake out" small operators to whom's business is a matter of profit.

For the most part of the day business has been dull, but towards the close, under influences above noted, the market was very active and excited. A large line of shorts was undoubtedly put out this afternoon but the first reaction will scare many of them into covering.

Yours truly, TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various markets of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National bank, No. 16, Sixth street:

	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
April 7, 1875.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	114¼	114¼	114¼	114¼	114¼	114¼
U. S. 6's, 1881, coupon	123¼	123¼	123¼	123¼	123¼	123¼
U. S. 5's, 1881, registered	117	117	117	117	117	117
U. S. 5-20's, 1864	119	119	119			
U. S. 5-20's, 1865, coupon	119	119	119	119	119	119
U. S. 5-20's, 1865, new	120½	120½	120½			
U. S. 5-20's, 1867	120½	120½	120½			
U. S. 5-20's, 1867, registered	120½	120½	120½			
U. S. 10-40's, registered	114½	114½	114½			
U. S. 10-40's, coupon	114½	114½	114¾			
Currency 6's	119½	119½	119½			
Pacific Mail	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Western Union Tel	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾
Quicksilver	42	42¼	42¼	42¼	42¼	42¼
Pacific Mail	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Panama	118	118	118			
Adams Express	102	102	102			
Wells-Fargo Express	84					
American Express	57					
United States Express	56					
New York Central	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾
Erie	29	28¾	28¾	30	30	30
Michigan Central			90			
Michigan Southern	73¾	74	74	73¾	73¾	73¾
Illinois Central						
Cleve. & Pittsburgh		92¾				
Chicago & Rock Island		95¾		95¾	95¾	95¾
Do preferred		98				
Rock Island		93				
Fort Wayne	39½	39¾	39¾	39½	39¾	39¾
Do preferred						
Wabash, common	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	16
Fort Wayne		95	95¾			
Ohio & Mississippi	28¾		28¾	28¾	28¾	
Union Pacific	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾
Harlem						
Hannibal & St. Jos.		27		27		
Iron Mountain		16		16		
C. C. & I. C.	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾
Tennessee, old		67		68		68
Tennessee, new			68		68	
Virginia, funding, April	31			31		31
South Carolinas, July	31			31		31
Missouri 6's				99¼		99¼

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	95¾	
Reading, sales		
United Co's. of N. Jersey, sales	193	193½
Oil Creek	95	95½
Lehigh Valley	63	
Allegheny Valley	93	94
Central Trans. Co., sales	45½	
Empire Trans. Co., sales	39	
N. C. and St. Louis m. b		

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
THURSDAY, April 8, 1875. }

The condition of mercantile circles to-day was moderately active, with a tolerably even distribution of traffic throughout the various departments of the grain, flour, produce, provisions, groceries, dry goods and general merchandise lines. The prospects of the spring and summer's business is that an average amount of trade will be done in the wholesale lines on country account. It is also evident that the demand for home consumption will be limited, until the settlement of the wages dispute in the iron mills, and the resumption of work. If that is done soon, we may look for in an increased degree of activity shortly. If not, trade will only be moderate at the best in the mercantile circles of this city.

The movements of values to-day were not very strongly marked except in provisions, which continued the upward movement heretofore noticed. Grain was quiet so far as transactions are concerned, but wheat and oats show a very strong advancing tendency, while corn is firm. Flour was fairly active in a jobbing way, and the business in round lots is considerably improved. In groceries there was a fair trade with sugars and coffees both firm and fairly active. Dry goods reported a fair jobbing movement at firm prices, the demand being good and evenly distributed for the different makes and varieties of seasonable goods. General merchandise was in moderate demand and a fair movement of merchandise took place at generally unchanged prices.

The New York *Evening Post* gives an encouraging account of the opening of the spring trade in dry goods in that city. The season is late, but bids fair to make up in activity for delay, buyers coming in freely from all sections except the country near the city. Prices, as a rule, are lower than ever before, the reduction being chiefly upon goods of the more expensive classes. The goods most in demand are those of durable quality and moderate value. Since the panic, goods of the most costly descriptions have been in very little request.

Mr. O. Britton of the firm of Harvey & Britton, commission merchants, Cincinnati, was a visitor at the Chamber of Commerce this morning.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,200	Apples, bbls	90
Corn, bush	195	Wheat, bush	350
Barley, bush	900	Oats, bush	2,335
Butter, pkgs	740	Potatoes, sacks	1,430
Potatoes, bus	1,765	Bacon, tes	50
Hay, bales	195		

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	8,512	9,435	17,965
Apples, bbls	3,162	1,719	4,881
Cheese, lbs	63	281	350
Corn, bush	7,312	4,188	11,500
Wheat, bush	993	2,995	3,859
Barley, bush	11,760	5,179	16,940
Rye, bush	541	61	602
Oats, bush	19,295	13,931	32,581
Butter, pkgs	1,241	988	1,229
Bacon, pcs	2,530	7,225	9,755
Bacon, tes	920	531	1,270
Potatoes, bush	5,735	6,177	11,940
Hay, bales	4,312	2,809	7,122

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of charges.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The receipts of grain for the week ending to-day have been exceedingly light, being only 26,010 bushels, half of which were oats. The stock in first hands is very light, which in connection with the fact that the Western markets for wheat, corn and oats are relatively above market prices here, makes holders very firm in their views. On the other hand, the demand is confined almost entirely to immediate wants, and transactions are restricted. Wheat is firm with an advancing tendency. Receipts are very light, but the market is fairly at its present position by the market ranger of values for flour. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 30@1 35 per bushel; extra Michigan white at 1 26@1 27; Ohio and Illinois do $1 20@1 25; amber do $1 20@1 30; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 16@1 17. Corn was steady but not very active; the stock is light, but the demand not being very urgent, prices are not much changed. Receipts for two weeks are only 11,760 bushels, about half the average consumption in times of activity. We quote shelled at 78@80c per bushel for high-mixed and yellow; 1 car prime yellow in store; low-mixed 75@77c. On Thursday morning shelled was extinct and 6 cars yellow in elevator sold at 79c. Ear was in moderate request and firm for prime yellow on track, 70@75c for mixed; we quote sales of 3 cars prime yellow on track at 75½c; 1 car mixed do at 75. Oats were very firm with no transactions reported. The stock is light, and holders are asking 76c, but we learn of no dealings at that figure. On Thursday morning the market was excited and sales of prime white were made at 70c. We quote sales of 4 cars prime white at 69@70c per bushel; 6 cars do at 69½c; 2 cars do at 69c for mixed. Receipts are 13,000 bushels for the week. Rye is very quiet and nominal at 90c per bushel for No. 2 spring. Rye is inactive, the only sale reported being 1 car No. 2 at 90c. We quote nominally at $1 25@1 29 per bushel for No. 2 spring. Barley is inactive, the only sales reported being 1 car choice fall at $1 60, and 1 car No. 2 at $1 50. We quote nominally at $1 50@1 60 per bushel for choice fall; $1 40@1 45 for No. 2 spring. Buckwheat is inactive at 90c per bushel.

FLOUR—Receipts were liberal, and the market is easier, though not quotably changed in prices. We quote prime white navy at $2 8@2 10 per bushel; medium $1 90@2 00; fair to good $1 70@1 80.

BUTTER—Receipts of butter continue liberal, being 1,740 packages contrasted to expected 1,000 pounds) for two weeks. The quality of the stock is not good, the supply of prime to choice table butter being small, and the general market is overstocked with common to medium grades, which are dragging, and the advance of the season, which usually occurs about this week. We quote prime to choice at 24@27c, with the bulk of the offerings selling at prices ranging for common to medium.

HONEY—The market for honeycomb is quoted at 15@23c ₱ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 30@35c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—The market continues very quiet, with business confined chiefly to jobbing transactions. Prices remain unchanged at 9c ₱ lb for Ohio factory; New York Goshen 11@17½c; Switzer 17@18c ₱ lb. Receipts for two weeks, 250 boxes. The English little dinner, but prices are unchanged.

EGGS—There is a fair market with a light supply. We quote at 24@25c ₱ dozen for strictly fresh.

HOPS—The market rules at $1 50 ₱ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₱ lb, 85@90c for round lots; 60@70c in a jobbing way; No. 2, ₱ lb, 50@60c, as to quality.

MINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a jobbing way.

MAPLE SUGAR—Maple sugar is sold at 14c ₱ lb for choice cakes; medium, loose 11@12c; maple syrup in gallon lots is quoted at 85c ₱ gallon; in kegs $1 40; in barrels $1 25. The stock of maple sweets is not large, and the market steady.

POTATOES—The week's receipts were considerably increased, and the somewhat urgent demand heretofore noticed was not so sharp. Still there was a fair demand and the market was steady at quotations. Receipts for the week, 9,571 bushels. We quote from store at $1 15@1 20 ₱ bushel for prime peachblows; Peerless $1 05@1 10; other grades, 90c@$1 00. Sales to-day: Peerless at $1 10 @1 15 ₱ bushel for peachblows; $1 00@1 05 for Peerless.

POULTRY—There is little doing and prices are nominal. Quotations at 14@15c for chickens; 12@13c for turkeys.

PRESERVES AND DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 7½@8c ₱ lb. Dried blackberries are easy at 9@10c ₱ lb. Peaches nominally quoted at 8@9c ₱ lb for choice halves. Cherries in demand and firm at 18@20c ₱ lb for clover; buckwheat bloom 23c ₱ lb. Medium pickles are quoted at $9 00 ₱ barrel; $5 00 ₱ half barrel.

SEEDS—Clover seed is moderately active; quotable at $6 50@7 00 ₱ bushel. Timothy seed quiet at $2 00@2 75 in round lots; $2 75@3 00 in a jobbing way. Flax seed is easier, and no stock offering; quoted nominally at $1 60@2 00; orchard grass seed is quoted at $3 00 ₱ bushel; blue grass seed, red-top do $2 00. Union sets $5 50@7 00 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 15@ 18c ₱ gallon for prime; interior 10@12c.

Groceries.

There was a fair jobbing and trade demand for standard groceries to-day. Prices were quotably unchanged, although sugars were firm, and some houses quoted a shade higher on quotations on standard sugars may be considered bottom prices, and advances from these rates is not improbable. Coffees were in sympathy with the advancing tendency in the Eastern markets. Molasses, syrups, teas, &c., are also steady, and moderately active. Prices current are as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Sugars.*	
Fancy Rio	24c	Standard A	10½c
Choice Rio	23½c	Standard Dry C	10c
Prime Rio	22c	Standard extra C	9½c
Good Rio	20c	Franklin extra C	9½c
Ordinary	19c	New Orleans	9½c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	@8c
Rio, in papers	27c	Cut loaf	11½c
Rio, in bulk	25c	Crushed	11½c
Java, in papers	40c	Powdered	11½c
Java, in bulk	38c	Granulated	11½c
Teas.			
Young Hyson	60@$1 00	*Molasses*	₱ gall.
Gunpowder	80c@1 25	Strictly ch'c N.O	70c
Imperial	80c@1 00	Prime	65c
Oolong	60c@1 00	Fair	60c
Oolong	25c@ 85	*Syrups.*	
Fancy	1 00	Ex. white drips	75c
Souchong	25c@ 85	Sugar drips	65c
Rice.		Lower grades	45@50c
Choice Carol'a's	@8½c	*Starch.*	₱ lb.
Patna	7½@8 c	Pearl	5 c
Rangoon	7½@7½c	Silver gloss	9½c
Spices.		*Spices.*	
Cloves	55 c	*Raisins.*	
Allspice	17½@18c	Layers, ₱ box	$3 25
Cassia	33 @35 c	Valentias, ₱ lb	12 c
Nutmegs	$1 35@1 40	Currants, ₱ lb	7½c
Pepper	@27 c	Prunes	10@12½c
Candles.		*Soaps.*	
Star, full weight	18½c	Irish soap ₱ box	$1 50
Tiberian	16½c	Castile soap, fancy	12 00
Soda.		Do. N.Y. City	9½c
Bi-carb, in ₱ kgs	6c	German Mottled	7 c
Bi-carb, in papers	8c		

Provisions.

The market continues strong with an upward movement noted in prices, especially with the excited tone of the Western markets. The receipts are light, being for two weeks, 9,725 pieces, about 1,120 tierces, equivalent to 393,800 pounds.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 9½@9½c ₱ lb; rib sides are quoted at 12½@13c; clear rib sides 15½c; clear sides 13½c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 13@14c ₱ lb. Sugar cured shoulders at 10½@ 10¾c ₱ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 13½@14c; dried beef 18½@19c ₱ pound. Pig hams $7 50.

MESS PORK—The market is strong and advanced. We quote at $23 00@23 50 ₱ bbl.

LARD—Is firm at quotations. We quote prime in tin, in tierces, ₱ lb, 15½@15¾c; half bbls do 16c; in buckets, 17¼c; in 5-lb caddies, 17½c; in 3-lb caddies do, 17¾c; in 2-lb pails do, 18c; in 5-lb pails, 17¾c; in 3-lb do, 18c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 12 ₱ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 6@6½c ₱ lb for choice, and 7½@7¾c for medium.

The Chicago *Commercial Bulletin*, of Saturday, publishes the following about the character of the business transacted in the provision market of that city last week:

"Never in the history of Chicago as a commercial city has such a proportion of business exhibited such a degree of activity as during the past week. The following table exhibits the aggregate trading in mess pork and the options dealt in during the week:

	Bbls.		Bbls.
Cash	22,850	Seller July	16,750
Seller April	28,750	Seller August	1,000
Seller May	97,850		
Seller June	109,250	Total	256,024

"The following table exhibits the aggregate trading in lard for the same time and the options dealt in:

	Tcs.		Tcs.
Cash	1,150	Seller July	4,250
Seller April	18,500	Seller August	2,000
Seller May	54,700		
Seller June	27,500	Total	108,850

"The following table exhibits the trading in the different kinds of meats during the past week:

	Lbs.		Lbs.
Hams	170,000	Long cl'r sides	483,000
Shoulders	1,393,000	Short cl'r sides	1,225,000
Short rib sides	7,260,000		
Total			11,003,000

"The aggregate value of this product reaches the enormous sum of $12,156,000, and exceeds a daily average of $2,000,000.

"According to this representation the stocks of mess pork and lard have changed hands more than twice during the week, and the trading in mess pork aggregates more than one-half the entire trading of the packing season of 1873-74, while the trading in lard exceeds that of the packing season of 1873-74."

General Merchandise.

ALES—Trade continues dull and unsatisfactory, with prices depressed and weak. We quote: $4 00 ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Bass' English ale, in kilderkins of 22 gallons, $21 00@23 00; firkins, 11 gallons, $10 00@11 00; bottle, 68 gallons, $62 50@65 00; in cases, 4 dozen bottles, $20 75. William Younger's India pale, in cases of 2 dozen bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, $2 75@ 3 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Coobrane's ginger ale $2 75 ₱ dozen.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—We quote alcohol at $2 25@2 35 ₱ gallon. Highwines are active and high at $1 16@1 18 ₱ gallon.

ASHES—Soda ashes refined, $4 00@4 25 ₱ cwt. for high test; common $3 25@3 50. Black lead $5 00@6 00; pearl ash $6 00@6 50; nitrate of soda $3 50@3 75; manganese $6 50; flour spar $2 50.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Quoted as follows: 1, 2 cans $4 50 ₱ dozen; 1, 4 cans $8 00; 1, 10 cans $8 50; 5 lb cans $25 00; 10 lb boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

BROOMS AND BRUSHES—Broom corn is strong and advancing. Choice hurl is quotable at 13@13½c ₱ pound, 11@12c; good to choice stalk braid, 11@12½c; inferior brush, 9½@10½c. Brooms are a shade easier. The following are makers' prices: No. 2 common, $2 75; No. 3 hurl, $3 00; No. 4, $3 50; No. 5, $4 00; No. 6, $4 25; No. 3, carpet, $4 50; No. 4 do, $4 75; fancy parlor, $5 00; whisps, plain, $1 25@1 75; whisps, fancy, $1 50@2 00; toy brooms, $1 50@ 2 00.

COKE—Is steady at $2 50@3 00 ₱ ton, delivered here or here by Pittsburgh. Anthracite coal is steady at $7 00 ₱ ton for lots; $7 50@8 00 for retail.

CEMENTS—Louisville hydraulic cement $2 00@ 2 25 ₱ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $1 75@2 00 ₱ bbl; Rosedale cement $3 50@4 00; Youghiogheny cement $2 00@2 50; Portland cement $4 00; White lime—Sandusky $1 65@1 75 ₱ bbl; Cleveland $1 65@1 75; Plaster—Fremont $1 60@1 70 per barrel; Michigan $3 25@3 50; Western brands $5 00@3 25.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Quotations are given at $7 75@8 00 for best quality; second quality $7 00@7 75.

FISH—We quote Kentucky rough at $160 00 @1 65 ₱ ton; double dressed 125@133c ₱ lb. Sandstone paving paper 4@8c ₱ lb, as to quality; manilla 7@12c; building ware papers one-half per bag; straw 45@48c; felt papers 4@4½c; straw wrapping 8@9c; fancy colored 12½@13c; book papers 14@18c ₱ lb.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $5 00 ₱ gross.

RAGS—Cotton at 2½@3c ₱ lb; and woolen at 1½c.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $6 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—In car lots, ₱ barrel, $1 60; jobbing lots, $1 80@1 85.

WOODEN WARE—We quote Pittsburgh make as follows: Tubs, standard, $6 50; do, $4 50; three-hooped buckets, ₱ doz, $2 15; No. 1 tubs, $6 00; No. 2 do, $5 00; No. 3 do, $4 00; two-hoop pails, ₱ doz, $7 00; No. 3 tubs, two hoops, ₱ doz, $5 00; washboards, patent crimp, ₱ doz, $2 25; washboards, common, ₱ doz, $2 25; clothes-pins, round head, ₱ box, 30c.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
THURSDAY, April 8, 1875. }

The weakening tendency of the market for crude petroleum continues, and prices rule about 2½c below those of our last report. The decline is attributable to the continued depression and the falling off in the demand, both for home and export trade. Refined is quiet and rather drooping, though nominally unchanged.

CRUDE.

We quote United, at wells, at $1 40 Union do at 35@1 37½; outside line do $1 30@1 32½ immediate shipment $1 60@1 65. Sales were quite limited, being only 7,000 barrels at 15ckers, and 550 barrels at other points.

REFINED.

There is a very quiet market with little alteration in our figures. Refiners show no disposition to concede anything on present value, and buyers being disposed to hold off, business is light. We quote standard white on the cars, Philadelphia and New York, Pennsylvania Railroad, at 11¾c; on the Connellsville track 11¾@12c.

New York—Refined rules at 11¾@11¾c for prompt delivery; 11¾@12c for April.

Philadelphia—Spot refined is quoted at 11¾ @11¾c.

Baltimore—Refined rules at 11½c for spot.

CANDLES—Are quoted at 18c for sperm; 12c for adamantine; 9½c for paraffine.

BARRELS—Are dull at $1 30 for city; $1 15@1 20 for country.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, April 7.—The *Courier* says: United at wells opened at $1 40¾, but upon receipt of news of a large increase in the production of 15c Hunter and Cummings well, the price rapidly declined, the close was nominally at $1 @2 00; orchard grass seed is quoted at $3 00 ₱ bushel; blue grass seed, red-top do $2 00. Union sets $5 50@7 00 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 15@ 18c ₱ gallon for prime; interior 10@12c.

Groceries.

There was a fair jobbing and trade demand for standard groceries to-day. Prices were quotably unchanged, although sugars were firm, and some houses quoted a shade higher on quotations on standard sugars may be considered bottom prices, and advances from these rates is not improbable. Coffees were in sympathy with the advancing tendency in the Eastern markets. Molasses, syrups, teas, &c., are also steady, and moderately active. Prices current are as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Sugars.*	
Fancy Rio	24½c	Standard A	10½c
Choice Rio	23½c	Standard Dry C	10c
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Good Rio	20 c	Franklin extra C	9½c
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Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	@8c
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Imperial	80c@1 00	Prime	65c
Oolong	60c@1 00	Fair	60c
Oolong	25c@ 85	*Syrups.*	
Fancy	1 00	Ex. white drips	75c
Souchong	25c@ 85	Sugar drips	65c
Rice.		Lower grades	45@50c
Choice Carol'a's	@8½c	*Starch.*	₱ lb.
Patna	7½@8 c	Pearl	5 c
Rangoon	7½@7½c	Silver gloss	9½c
Spices.		*Spices.*	
Cloves	55 c	*Raisins.*	
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ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—We quote alcohol at $2 25@2 35 ₱ gallon. Highwines are active and high at $1 16@1 18 ₱ gallon.

ASHES—Soda ashes refined, $4 00@4 25 ₱ cwt. for high test; common $3 25@3 50. Black lead $5 00@6 00; pearl ash $6 00@6 50; nitrate of soda $3 50@3 75; manganese $6 50; flour spar $2 50.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Quoted as follows: 1, 2 cans $4 50 ₱ dozen; 1, 4 cans $8 00; 1, 10 cans $8 50; 5 lb cans $25 00; 10 lb boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

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COKE—Is steady at $2 50@3 00 ₱ ton, delivered here or here by Pittsburgh. Anthracite coal is steady at $7 00 ₱ ton for lots; $7 50@8 00 for retail.

CEMENTS—Louisville hydraulic cement $2 00@ 2 25 ₱ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $1 75@2 00 ₱ bbl; Rosedale cement $3 50@4 00; Youghiogheny cement $2 00@2 50; Portland cement $4 00; White lime—Sandusky $1 65@1 75 ₱ bbl; Cleveland $1 65@1 75; Eastern white lime $1 40@1 50 per barrel. Calcined plaster—French $4 00@ 4 50 per barrel; Eastern brands $3 50@3 75 per barrel; Michigan $3 25@3 50; Western brands $3 00@3 25.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Quotations are given at $7 75@8 00 for best quality; second quality $7 00@7 75.

FISH—We quote Kentucky rough at $160 00 @1 65 ₱ ton; double dressed 125@133c ₱ lb. Sandstone paving paper 4@8c ₱ lb, as to quality; manilla 7@12c; building ware papers one-half per bag; straw 45@48c; felt papers 4@4½c; straw wrapping 8@9c; fancy colored 12½@13c; book papers 14@18c ₱ lb.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $5 00 ₱ gross.

RAGS—Cotton at 2½@3c ₱ lb; and woolen at 1½c.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $6 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—In car lots, ₱ barrel, $1 60; jobbing lots, $1 80@1 85.

WOODEN WARE—We quote Pittsburgh make as follows: Tubs, standard, $6 50; do, $4 50; three-hooped buckets, ₱ doz, $2 15; No. 1 tubs, $6 00; No. 2 do, $5 00; No. 3 do, $4 00; two-hoop pails, ₱ doz, $7 00; No. 3 tubs, two hoops, ₱ doz, $5 00; washboards, patent crimp, ₱ doz, $2 25; washboards, common, ₱ doz, $2 25; clothes-pins, round head, ₱ box, 30c.

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The weakening tendency of the market for crude petroleum continues, and prices rule about 2½c below those of our last report. The decline is attributable to the continued depression and the falling off in the demand, both for home and export trade. Refined is quiet and rather drooping, though nominally unchanged.

CRUDE.

We quote United, at wells, at $1 40 Union do at 35@1 37½; outside line do $1 30@1 32½ immediate shipment $1 60@1 65. Sales were quite limited, being only 7,000 barrels at 15ckers, and 550 barrels at other points.

REFINED.

There is a very quiet market with little alteration in our figures. Refiners show no disposition to concede anything on present value, and buyers being disposed to hold off, business is light. We quote standard white on the cars, Philadelphia and New York, Pennsylvania Railroad, at 11¾c; on the Connellsville track 11¾@12c.

New York—Refined rules at 11¾@11¾c for prompt delivery; 11¾@12c for April.

Philadelphia—Spot refined is quoted at 11¾ @11¾c.

Baltimore—Refined rules at 11½c for spot.

CANDLES—Are quoted at 18c for sperm; 12c for adamantine; 9½c for paraffine.

BARRELS—Are dull at $1 30 for city; $1 15@1 20 for country.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, April 7.—The *Courier* says: United at wells opened at $1 40¾, but upon receipt of news of a large increase in the production of 15c Hunter and Cummings well, the price rapidly declined, the close was nominally at $1 @2 00; orchard grass seed is quoted at $3 00 ₱ bushel; blue grass seed, red-top do $2 00. Union sets $5 50@7 00 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 15@ 18c ₱ gallon for prime; interior 10@12c.

Groceries.

There was a fair jobbing and trade demand for standard groceries to-day. Prices were quotably unchanged, although sugars were firm, and some houses quoted a shade higher on quotations on standard sugars may be considered bottom prices, and advances from these rates is not improbable. Coffees were in sympathy with the advancing tendency in the Eastern markets. Molasses, syrups, teas, &c., are also steady, and moderately active. Prices current are as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Sugars.*	
Fancy Rio	24½c	Standard A	10½c
Choice Rio	23½c	Standard Dry C	10c
Prime Rio	22 c	Standard extra C	9½c
Good Rio	20 c	Franklin extra C	9½c
Ordinary	19 c	New Orleans	9½c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	@8c
Rio, in papers	27 c	Cut loaf	11½c
Rio, in bulk	25 c	Crushed	11½c
Java, in papers	40 c	Powdered	11½c
Java, in bulk	38 c	Granulated	11½c
Teas.			
Young Hyson	60@$1 00	*Molasses*	₱ gall.
Gunpowder	80c@1 25	Strictly ch'c N.O	70c
Imperial	80c@1 00	Prime	65c

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1875.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The publishers of our ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, in the East, having discontinued its publication, we shall be unable to furnish it to subscribers hereafter. We ask the indulgence of our patrons, in this matter, for the reason that the failure is wholly beyond our control.

The receipts of gold duties at the Philadelphia Custom House for last month were $955,679 84.

The United States Circuit Court of New York has just decided that insolvent banks are liable for interest accruing before bankruptcy.

The taxpayers of Illinois talk of observing the 15th of this month as a day of general thanksgiving. It is the time set for the adjournment of the Democratic State Legislature.

There will be no more appeals from Canada to the mother country, the Dominion having just established a Supreme Court of its own. This is the child's first progress in trying to walk alone.

The Lynchburg (Va.) *News* eloquently beseeches "aspiring Southern men" to "Keep in the background for the present." Mum's the word—until they have got a little firmer grip on the country's throat.

The total imports at New York, last week, exclusive of specie, amounted to $8,856,575, against $9,882,427 for the corresponding week last year. The total imports since the first of January reach a valuation of $98,784,181, against $110,397,114 for the relating period of 1874.

The new grain elevator at Girard Point, Philadelphia, loaded 223,000 bushels of grain into vessels for Europe during the ten days ending March 31st, and vessels enough are in waiting to carry off 562,000 bushels more. The increase of facilities for shipping is more than met by the increase in the demand for grain for shipment.

Between two and three millions of dollars in silver will be coined at the United States mint during the present month. This is for the purpose of carrying into effect the clause of the late finance bill that provides for the substitution of silver in place of our present fractional currency. Opinions differ widely as to the success of the measure.

The public debt was reduced last month $3,681,000. The receipts from internal revenue during the month were about half a million dollars larger than they were in March of last year. The customs revenues were light, the high price of gold having naturally tended to keep goods in bond as long as they were not actually required for the trade.

The second Wednesday in April is devoted to tree planting in Nebraska, and is known as Arbor Day. The practice of setting apart one special day in the year to tree planting is a good one, and should not be confined to Nebraska alone. We have devoted the last fifty years to the extermination of our forests; and it is time, now, to begin systematically to replace them.

It is not improbable that, before very long, some plan will be agreed upon for the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The company has already 532 miles of road built, and the anticipated opening of the Black Hills will throw a large amount of business over its line which otherwise would not go West at all. That it will be finished sooner or later, is certain.

Here is the expressive oath which the Kentucky Ku-Klux take, on being inducted into membership in that delectable organization:

"Doo you solumnly swaro, in the presence of your God, that you will support and protect the so-cawled Ku-Klux Klan as long as you liv, and you will sware that, and will obey the orders it cailed on by the chin, cill the negroes, yonge it nsary." "Yongs if nsary" means colored babies.

A number of the leading colored men of Richmond, Va., have in contemplation the establishment of a colored school of industry in that city. The plan has been fully matured, and the work is to be begun at once. The reflex influence of such an institution can hardly fail in time to exert a good effect on the lounging white youth of that locality, and help to make them useful members of society. It will thus subserve two beneficial purposes at once.

New York, it appears, is not the only State that is cursed with canal rings and robberies. A late number of the Cumberland, Maryland, *Times* contains a startling communication concerning the affairs of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, evidently written by some one thoroughly familiar with the subject of which he treats, making charges that, if they can be substantiated, will create a sensation relatively as great as did the New York exposure.

The March returns of the dry goods importation at New York show a considerably greater activity than is ordinarily manifested at this time of the year, chiefly attributable, no doubt, to the recent advance in tariff rates, the total entries being $2,329,889 in excess of last year. The increase has been principally in woolens and silks, the stocks of which are now comparatively low. For the past three months the total importations foot up $36,599,765, against $34,916,591 for the corresponding period last year.

The notice which the Secretary of the Treasury has just given, calling attention to the custom of paying interest without rebate, is doubtless put forth as a measure to ease the market, under a belief that it will tend to depress gold, the downward tendency of which encourages the hope that the sale of the new five per cent. bonds will soon be resumed here. During the recent high rates for gold they were very slow of sale, except in Europe, the market there being affected only by the rates of exchange.

The United States District Court of New York, in a bankruptcy case which came before it last week, held that under the recently adopted revised statutes of the United States, a notary public has no authority to take affidavits to be used in the United States courts, except those relating to proofs of debt, in bankruptcy, and depositions *de bene esse*. All other affidavits to be used in the United States courts must be sworn to before a United States commissioner or a register in bankruptcy. This decision considerably restricts the powers heretofore exercised by notaries public.

The appearance of the yellow fever at Key West and Havana so early as the beginning of April, is an anomaly. We can recall no similar occurrence. What does it portend? A pestilental summer? We are loth to draw so frightful a conclusion. The winter has had terrors enough to fill our measure for the year, and it is sickening to look forward to a summer of destructive epidemics. The yellow fever has not yet, it is true, taken on an epidemic form, and we hope it may not; but the fact of its early and unseasonable appearance is not, by any means, an encouraging one.

The retirement of United States Treasurer SPINNER, after fourteen years' continuous service, without a stain upon his name, or a doubt about his official integrity, is in remarkable contrast with the disgusting revelations of official delinquency now being unearthed in New York. He has probably handled more money during his term of office, than any other man that ever held office in this country, and not a cent of it ever stuck to his fingers; while the Democratic Canal Ring in New York, in half the time, has managed to steal about half of the money that passed through its hands.

The Western and Southern papers aver that the press of Pennsylvania does not take half the interest in the outrages committed in the mining regions of this State as it does in the outrages committed in the South. This is due, in the first place, to the fact that the outrages in the mining region, as they are called, do not compare in any respect with the Southern outrages referred to; and in the second place, to the fact that our local authorities invariably take immediate cognizance of whatever wrongs are perpetrated and arrest the offenders. The best of governments cannot always prevent local outbreaks; but it can always punish them; and the difference between Pennsylvania and the South is that our public authorities are uniformly arrayed against those who violate the laws, while in the South they are as uniformly on the side of the wrong-doers.

DEFAMATION OF PUBLIC MEN.

Governor HARTRANFT, of Pennsylvania, and Governor CHAMBERLAIN, of South Carolina, are both notable instances of the fallibility in judgment of those who set themselves up as arbiters of public opinion.

Governor CHAMBERLAIN was chosen at the last election in South Carolina, and every effort was made that could be made, by certain papers calling themselves Republican, in the Northern States, to cast reproach upon him, and prevent his election. He was denounced in the New York *Times*, and in some other papers which stand up so straight on the Republican side that they constantly lean over to the other, as the tool of a corrupt ring in South Carolina politics, and as one who had himself defiled his hands by complicity with Governor MOSES, as his Secretary of State. The saddest predictions were indulged in as to the evils that would befall the State if such an calamity should happen as CHAMBERLAIN's election.

The calamity, as anticipated, did happen. CHAMBERLAIN was elected. The Republicans of South Carolina knew when they had a good candidate, if some of the Northern Republicans did not, and they stuck to him manfully, in spite of lamentations in New York and elsewhere. The clamor of the fearful souls had as little effect upon them as a similar clamor had upon the Republicans of Pennsylvania in 1872. The Republicans of South Carolina not only knew their own business, but knew how to attend to it.

And now, behold, after months of severe trial, CHAMBERLAIN turns out to be a model Governor, and who so loud in praising him as those who so lately and so bitterly traduced him? They have tendered him no apology for the bad things they said of him, and are careful to hide the record of their bad judgment concerning him; but they seek to make up for it by indulging in eulogies as fulsome as their former abuse of him was violent. To read those papers, now, one might be tempted to believe that they had been the first to discover his true worth.

The same course was pursued toward Governor HARTRANFT in 1872. He was then attacked, abused, traduced, insulted, mocked and denounced as dishonest, incapable, and vile beyond conception. He was charged with having defrauded the State, himself, and with permitting others to defraud it: and it was predicted that the State would, if he were elected, become the prey of thieves and scoundrels of every possible degree. The New York *Tribune* led off in this disreputable attack upon one of the very best men Pennsylvania has ever produced, and was followed by the Springfield *Republican*, the Cincinnati *Commercial*, and various other papers of lower degree. So persistent and violent were these attacks that the Republican press, outside of Pennsylvania, were appalled by it and were driven into a silence that indicated a fear, at least, that the allegations might be true. The Republicans of the State were consequently left to fight the battle out, themselves, as best they could, and they *did* fight it out, most nobly. They vindicated their own sagacity in their choice of a leader, as well as the integrity of their candidate, by sticking to him, in spite of the faint-heartedness of their friends elsewhere, and they had their reward in one of the grandest victories ever won on the field of politics.

And now, after nearly three years' service as Governor, even the mendacious and reckless New York *Tribune* has discovered that HARTRANFT is a good Governor and an honest man. It concedes his purity and integrity, and admits that he has faithfully met his many and grave responsibilities. He is, in fact, complimented on all hands as one of the best Governors the State has ever had. He has passed through the seven-times heated furnace, and come out without the smell of fire upon his garments.

Here, then, are two striking instances of popular injustice to worthy and deserving men; and the injustice, in both cases, was so glaring that men are led to marvel how it could ever have been committed. And it never could have been committed if those who permitted themselves to be guilty of it were not habitually given to harsh and hasty judgment. Within a few years past it has become the fashion to pounce down upon every public man against whom a breath of suspicion is emitted and treat him as a criminal, without permitting him the poor privilege of being heard. It is enough if somebody suspects him. He must be a criminal or he would not be charged with criminality. In the jurisprudence which guides this class of journalists, every public man is to be considered guilty until he proves himself innocent, and even then he has to undergo a long quarantine as having come from a suspected port.

The confessed injustice shown towards Governors HARTRANFT and CHAMBERLAIN should be sufficient in itself to teach a higher charity in public judgment, generally. Many a high-toned and worthy man is kept out of public life through fear of having to encounter the harshness of judgment which has so long been visited upon those who have consented to serve the people. If ever this class is moved from its enforced retirement, it will be by setting up a higher and a better standard of treatment. The press must learn to treat public men fairly, if it wishes to see such a class of men brought into public life. Men of means, men of culture, men of high reputation and exalted character, will never seek office for either its honors or emoluments; but their regard for the community in which they live might prompt them to bear their share of public duty, if only they could feel sure they would not be assailed as villains the moment they put their heads above the surface.

The fact that such men as HARTRANFT and CHAMBERLAIN are finally vindicated is not, of itself, a sufficient inducement to undergo the fearful ordeal they have passed through.

The devil, it is said, is not as black as he is painted; and it is certain that very few public men are as bad as they are represented. There are some who pass for good, who are really bad; but they are not numerous; and there is much more integrity in public life than most of us are willing to admit. That it might be increased, we are free to confess; but it never will be so long as the press stands, with a drawn club, ready to strike the first head that comes within reach, regardless of the right or wrong of such action.

STATE SOVEREIGNTY.

Mr. CHARLES INGERSOLL, of Philadelphia, has published a work of three hundred pages to show that all the dangers by which now beset our Republican form of government spring from an abandonment of the old Democratic idea of State rights. The Federal Government, he thinks, has grown too strong, while the State governments have grown too weak, and the remedy consists in going back to the Virginia and Kentucky resolutions of 1798, which declared the States to be sovereign and independent, and the National Government their mere agent. JEFFERSON is his model statesman, and the Jeffersonian idea of Democracy the only resource against eventual despotism.

It is a strange fact that, when thinking Democrats examine into political theories, they universally bring up on this ground of State Rights. The controversies which followed the adoption of the Constitution of 1787 resulted in placing the Democrats of that day upon that doctrine as enunciated in the resolutions of 1798; CALHOUN saw in it the sole means of maintaining the institution of slavery; the rebels of 1861 fastened upon it as their sheet anchor; and now, just as we are emerging from the effects of a war brought on by it, and which overthrew it, we find such men as INGERSOLL and EATON recurring to it as to a foundation stone, upon which the Democracy of to-day must build, if they build at all. There can be no such thing as Democracy if State sovereignty be not its fundamental principle.

The reason is not far to seek. The two phrases are interchangeable and mean the same thing. State sovereignty is Democracy, and Democracy is State sovereignty. It is true that JEFFERSON found it when he put down Nullification, which was its legitimate offspring, and that JEFFERSON departed from it when he purchased the Louisiana territory; but that only goes to show that necessity sometimes overcomes a political idea, and these occasional departures from it are merely the exceptions which prove the generality of the rule.

The Democratic party of to-day is, as Senator EATON, of Connecticut, says, based upon the principle that the States are sovereign and independent governments, and the General Government a mere Confederacy to do for them, jointly, what they cannot do, separately, for themselves. The powers of the States, according to this view, are unlimited, whilst the power of the General Government is limited to the few privileges granted to it by the States. The General Government can do little, if any thing, while the States can do almost what they please.

The rebel States went to war for this doctrine in 1861, and were beaten; but the party with which the active participants in it were identified still clings to it as its central idea. Whatever form the immediate political questions of the present may assume, or whatever shape future political questions may take, we may rest assured that this principle of State sovereignty will be found in some way to underlie them all.

The Republican party has never accepted the idea of the old Federalists, who contested the ground originally with the Democrats, of a strong central government holding the States subject to it. That idea was abandoned long since. But it holds that the Federal Government, in the language of the preamble to the Constitution, was adopted by *the people* of the United States, and was not, therefore, a mere league or confederation of independent States; and having been so adopted, the Federal Government is supreme, within the range of the powers conferred upon it. The Republican party, in fact, stands upon the letter and the spirit of the Constitution itself, while the Democratic party stands upon the exploded articles of Confederation which were superseded by the Constitution. The Republican party is the party of the present and the party of progress; the other is the party of the past, hostile alike to progress and that proper exercise of national power which should characterize a people claiming a national existence.

The difference between the two partiesis therefore a radical one; and in fighting out that difference they are but fighting, over again, the battles that have already taken place over it, and must be repeated many times before the question is finally settled.

COUNTRY ROADS.

The valuation of property, in this county, subject to taxation for township purposes, including that portion only outside of the cities and boroughs, is, in round numbers, between sixty and sixty-five millions of dollars. Upon this property there is annually a tax levied for road purposes which, under the increased valuation, ranges from one to two mills on the dollar. Taking the average at one mill and a half, we have a tax of $100,000 raised annually for road purposes in the various townships of the county.

Now, a hundred thousand dollars, well applied every year for a series of years, should give us the very best of roads in the rural portion of the county; yet it is notorious that our country roads are never what may be called "good," and are nearly always bad. We do not think they are any worse than country roads elsewhere, but they are certainly no better; and he would be among the wisest of mortals who could ascertain and demonstrate what good is done, to the roads or to those who use them, by this large annual outlay upon them. So far as present appearances go the money might just as well have been saved. Practically, we throw away a hundred thousand dollars a year upon our country roads, in a mock attempt to keep them in order and in demonstrating the problem of how not to do it.

No one would grudge the hundred thousand, nortwice, not thrice that sum, if the result of its application could be seen and felt. It is the waste, alone, that is complained of. As the country fills up, and population increases, the need for better roads must be constantly growing; yet we go on, year after year, in the old and ruinous way, and our highways are in the same bad condition they were twenty years and more ago. They are more used now than they were then; and the more they are used the worse they get.

That the people have been patient under this annual waste is probably owing to the fact that the large property holders have the privilege of paying their road taxes in kind, that is, by work on the roads. If they had to pay them in cash, there would be less submissiveness to the burden.

The fact is that our whole road system is wrong, and needs a radical change. It was well enough adapted to a new country, and served its purpose, probably, at the time it was framed. But the system has long since grown out of, and beyond, its condition at the time our present road laws were adopted. We are getting, now, into a condition in which good roads must be considered a public necessity. Communication between the city and country is much more frequent than it was; and if people who are compelled to use the roads are entitled to any roads at all, they are certainly entitled to *good* ones. It is time, therefore, that the people of Allegheny county should wake up to the duty of seeing that the money they annually contribute for keeping up the roads is applied in such a way as to secure the end aimed at. Let us quit this folly of playing at making roads, and begin the work of making them, in earnest.

It is not impossible, it is not even difficult, to make good roads; and, when once made, they can be kept up at less cost than bad ones. The way is not wanting, so much as the will; and the way will never be found so long as the present dead-alive system is kept up. We ask attention to it, now, for two reasons; first, because we are just entering upon another year of this useless expenditure of public money, and second, because the country roads are, at this season of the year, in the worst possible condition. There is no better time, consequently, for fully taking in the whole subject, in its length and breadth; and we trust that, when it is properly comprehended, the necessary effort will be made to remedy an evil so glaring.

DEMOCRATIC CORRUPTION.

The New York Democratic papers, appalled at the corruption in the management of the canals of that State by its infamous Canal Ring, try to make it appear that the latter is not composed exclusively of Democrats, but that several leading Republicans are members of it. Investigation shows, however, that every one of the men now classed as Republicans by these Democratic journals went over with GREELEY to the Democracy in 1872. They were all "Liberals" and are now all Democrats. Their secret alliance with the Democracy began when they began to steal, and their open alliance with it took place when they could no longer conceal their thefts. GREELEY and FENTON were part of the Canal Ring while they were in active life, and their followers in the "Liberal" Republican movement, while they justified their secession from the Republican party on the ground of hostility to GRANT, were really prompted to it by their unwillingness to let go their hold upon the New York State Treasury. When they became too corrupt to be able to retain their membership in our party, they naturally took refuge in the Democratic ranks.

The Republican party of New York has always been against the Canal Ring, and Governor TILDEN'S main backing, in his pending attack upon it, comes from the Republican press and the Republican members of the Legislature. The infamy of the terrible thefts committed upon the State, by the canal conspirators, belongs solely to the Democrats and the Democratic party; and the fact that the State has been robbed of millions upon millions by these Democratic thieves will go a great way toward satisfying the people that it is no longer safe to entrust the affairs of government to Democratic hands.

WHO WROTE THE CONSTITUTION?

A subscriber to Brick POMEROY'S *Democrat* asks that intelligent sheet, "who wrote the Constitution of the United States?" and the editor solves the conundrum in this wise:

The old, original, genuine Constitution of the United States was written by Thomas Jefferson; but the patched-up, remodeled, counterfeit document which now does duty as a Constitution would be utterly repudiated by the old patriot.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, it so happens, was not a member of the convention which formed the Constitution of the United States, nor was he in the country, at all, when it was formed. He was sent to Europe in 1784, to look after the interests of the colonies, and did not return until 1789, some time after the Constitution had been adopted. He did not like the Constitution, either, "he did not know," he wrote to a friend, "whether the good or bad predominated in the instrument, and some portions of it *staggered* him." He afterwards, it is said, formed a more favorable opinion of it; but it is certain that he not only had no hand in forming it, but was bitterly opposed to it, at first, as tending too strongly towards centralization.

GOVERNOR TILDEN of New York has no doubt done himself great credit for taking the initiative in the subject of canal reform. People, however, are beginning to inquire what he proposes to do further about it, and to remind him of the fact that, unless he follows up his message with decisive action, he will have obtained his reputation very cheaply indeed. The New York *Journal of Commerce*, which speaks in the name of the practical men of the Chamber of Commerce and the Produce Exchange, asks:

"What next? What is the Governor going to do? The appointment of an investigation commission is an important step, but the remedial legislation remains to be adopted, and there is the danger. And if the Legislature should pass all the restraining acts suggested by the Governor, there is one most necessary thing that they cannot do; they cannot commence suit or prosecution against the canal thieves to punish them and recover the money stolen. That sort of remedy—which is the best that can be applied—belongs to the Attorney General's office. It is executive, not legislative, in its character; and the one man who can set the legal machinery in motion for the punishment of the Ring and the recovery of the abstracted funds is the Governor himself. He has proof sufficient to convict the guilty parties, or knows where it can be found. He has three new, comprehensive laws, passed at his instigation, to meet precisely this class of cases. In a matter which the Governor originated and which is his pet idea, it is not likely that the Attorney General would act without the Governor's direction. Therefore, we fix upon the Governor the final responsibility of testing the virtues of the new laws against the canal gang. If this is not done, the brave beginning will have but a lame and impotent ending."

Not a few people believe that the investigation will turn out a mare's nest. At all events, the canal thieves do not appear to be particularly alarmed themselves, but they seem to have succeeded in disquieting the Governor not a little, who discovers that he has kindled a fire of counter investigation which is not only likely to consume some of his best friends, but may quite possibly result in singeing his own garments. And then, farewell to his ambitious dreams of the White House. The situation is decidedly dramatic.

The decadence of the sugar refining interest in England, brought about by sharp competition from France, being a matter of personal concern to the British free traders, they are clamoring for the imposition of a duty on foreign refined sugar equal in amount to the bounty paid by the French Government, the bonus which the latter has for several years been in the habit of giving to refiners who export their product having enabled the refiners of France to sell their product in England below its market value in their own country. Ten or twelve years ago there were a score of refineries in London alone; now there are only four in all England. Formerly that country exported vast quantities of loaf sugar to the Mediterranean, Turkey, North and South America, and her colonies, but she now exports next to none, the French refiners having monopolized the business. There is said to be a strong probability that the protective measure in question will be adopted—notwithstanding that it would entirely upset the free trade argument which England is so fond of urging upon other countries. There are political economists on this side of the water to whom a careful study of this matter might prove instructive.

The Newark (N. J.) *Courier*, gives an interesting detailed description of an invention just patented by Mr. H. M. PAINE, the inventor of the electric motor, the importance of which, should it be generally employed as proposed, can hardly be overestimated. It is designed to utilize, as a motive power, the static pressure of water mains without any wastage or impairment of such pressure. It consists in the construction of a chamber and piston of such character that the piston rises or moves out under pressure with out any variation of quantity. Thus, if the chamber has a capacity of ten cubic inches before the piston moves out, its capacity will be only ten cubic inches after it has moved out, so that motion is obtained under pressure by the simple change of shape, of what would be termed the cylinder of a steam engine, without any variation of quantity. It is claimed that, by the application of this invention, every man who has water pipes in his building may have a power costing but little, that is practically as great as that of a hydrostatic press, which is one of the greatest forces known.

A case of a nature quite rare in the courts, but involving a principle of considerable importance, has just been decided by the New York Supreme Court, and is reported at length in the *Times*. The suit was brought in equity by a young married woman to have her inchoate right of dower in property valued at $150,000, protected by injunction. The property had been conveyed by her husband to his two grown up daughters, children of a former wife, four days before plaintiff's marriage with him, and without her knowledge or consent, the consideration being natural affection of the grantor for the grantee. This act of the husband was claimed to have been in fraud of his wife's inchoate right of dower, and the court was asked for a decree declaring the conveyance void so far as it affected such right. This was granted, the court holding that a man cannot woo a woman with his wealth, and then defraud her of the enjoyment of it by deeding away his property on the eve of their marriage. The decision is of special interest to women.

When Gen. GORDON, a Rebel soldier, first entered the United States Senate, he furnished a very modest notice of himself for publication in the Congressional Directory, in which he omitted all reference to his services in the Confederate army. After four years' Democratic victories, however, he became bolder, and the last issue of the Directory, after stating his birth, place of nativity, &c., goes on to say:

"At the beginning of the war he (John B. Gordon) entered the Confederate army as captain of infantry, and was promoted to major, lieutenant colonel, colonel, brigadier general, major general, and then to the command of the second army corps, commanded one wing of General Lee's army at Appomattox Court House, and was wounded in battle eight times."

Gen. GORDON concluded, very logically, that, if the country was going to become Democratic, no offense could be taken at his record as a Confederate soldier. On the contrary, it was more likely to commend him to Democratic support, and hence there was no good reason for keeping it back any longer.

The *Financial Chronicle* finds the chief est encouraging symptoms of renewed business activity and prosperity in the fact that confidence is steadily improving in the financial community. Whether a larger business is being done or not, that observant journal is certain that whatever business is done rests on a much better basis. There are shorter credits and more of wholesome discrimination and caution. The practical conclusion which the *Chronicle* derives from the whole outlook is, that while there is abundant encouragement for legitimate enterprise, there is also a stern warning to every honest tradesman against rash enterprises and inordinate ventures.

The Treasury Girl.

A Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* writes: "The Treasury girl is not beautiful except with that old-fashioned style of beauty in vogue when the daughters of the house esteemed it a duty to be subsupporting institutions. She has not leisure for the midday *siesta* in shaded parlor and prolonged devotion at the toilet bath which produces the languid demeanor and peachy complexion of that fancy article of women which our rich men marry to put on exhibition with their stately horses and brilliant equipages. Mark them as they assemble in the morning, each with a scarlet napkin of luncheon and perhaps a novel from the library of the Treasury, on whose hero, if she be more sentimental than conscientious, she may allow her thoughts to dwell when they ought to be occupied in her country's service. Her overdress is perhaps a trifle worn and faded, her headgear is more luncried than studied, and an expression of anxiety and a hurried gait indicate a fear lest she may be late. About nine o'clock in the morning these come in groups and straggling in by detachments; at three o'clock in the afternoon they depart all together, and the number of them is overwhelming to contemplate. They go home with a slow step, weariness on the brow and ink on the fingers. Living this manner of life the Treasury girl has neither the time nor power to devote to making herself brilliant, vivacious and fascinating, which is one of the most laborious exertions of a woman's experience. Yet there are those who are piquant exceptions, and who can come and copy by day and talk persiflage, and tread the Boston by night all the gay and giddy season through, and then say, 'Oh, dear!' when Lent comes along and frowns their dissipation down. Sometimes one of these handmaids of the Government takes a notion to get married, as all girls will, but more than ordinary inducements, such as love, for instance, must be offered them in return for themselves. Most of our women marry for the sake of a home and the certainty of a livelihood, but these, the girls of the Departments, having those conditions assured them by their ability to work, are enabled to indulge in the luxury of marrying for love or not at all."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Our Vienna Jay bird is winging his way homeward.

A nephew of Sir Walter Scott saws wood in Montreal for a living.

Every dog has its day, but Ohio has also a "State Dog Association."

A case of feminine Siamese twins is reported at Staunton, Indiana.

The voices of the bluebirds and the robins are once more heard in the land.

Freight trains were run through the Hoosac tunnel for the first time, yesterday.

The New York dailies are as much alike as patent outsides. Cause; the Brooklyn trial.

Culture is not incompatible with business. There is more "refinement" in the oil business.

The Secretary of War will soon make a trip to the Yellowstone Park in company with General Sheridan.

Experience shows that women are nearly as good at spelling against men as in casting spells over them.

The donkey that recently vanquished the lioness in Cincinnati has since died from mortification. What an ass!

A New England paper describes a patent "torpedo" whaling harpoon that it thinks might be made a-whale-able.

They claim to have discovered a starch mine out in Colorado. Probably somebody has struck a potato patch.

A financial crisis is feared at Berlin. This will tickle the French to distraction. But it should send up our securities.

There were 873 deaths in New York last month from what are generally described as diseases of the respiratory organs.

General Augur has assumed command of the Department of the Gulf. He is a good soldier and will go the hole figure.

The New England cotton manufacturers are getting plenty of new hands, in place of the strikers, with no concession of prices.

In consequence of the increase of postage on third-class matter, the Postoffice Department is issuing two-cent newspaper wrappers.

Six hundred people were killed and some three thousand wounded, during the recent cyclone in Georgia and South Carolina.

What's afoot? The Emperor of Russia will go to Ems in May, and the Emperors of Germany and Austria will meet him there.

The Sioux Indians want a million dollars for their Black Hills reservation. It is a big sum, but we had better purchase than plunder.

Our Government is considering the policy of making a demand of Mexico for indemnity on account of the raids into Texas by Mexicans.

In Russia a commission is to examine the expediency of reducing the excessive number of holidays enjoyed by that too happy people.

The newspaper men in the West and South hold a convention in St. Louis today, to devise means for better compensation for labor.

A splendid new quarter is about to be added to Berlin, whose streets will all be named after Germany's most eminent musical celebrities.

In St. Louis, the other day, Professor Fowler, the phrenologist, was fined ten dollars for feeling a lad's head too emphatically with his fist.

There is nothing new under the sun. The Knights of St. John in the early part of the sixteenth century had two iron-clads in their famous navy.

A handkerchief of William Penn is to be on exhibition at the Centennial, and a curious correspondent desires to know if it is the original Penn wiper.

Elder Cannon, the polygamous Delegate in Congress from Utah, escaped punishment for bigamy through the operation of the statute of limitations.

The great Northwestern lumber camps are all breaking up, and mill proprietors are putting their mills in order preparatory for a good season's work.

At least one important reform seems likely to come out of the agitation of cremation. This is the substitution of other material than wood for coffins.

Says the Cincinnati *Gazette*: "Since the alliance between the Church of Rome and the Democrats, the latter may be truly said to be representatives of the masses."

The Secretary of the Treasury has granted a rehearing of the argument against the retroactive effect of the decision in reference to the additional tax on tobacco.

The survey of the South Pass of the Mississippi river, under the direction of Captain Eads, in charge of the construction of the proposed jetties, will begin to-day.

A Kentucky cat some time since fell in love with a rooster, and followed him around for about a year. She is now engaged in sitting on a nest of hen's eggs.

Our streets last summer were filthy, and a disgrace to the corporation. It looks, too, as though we were to have another summer Iliad of garbage, muck and slush.

Speed. The Vienna pneumatic mail system, which was opened for public use a month ago, forwards packages in the almost incredibly short space of two seconds.

The first man bowled out in a recent St. Louis spelling match was ex-Vice President candidate B. Gratz Brown. He didn't slip up on buttered watermelon, however.

When the counting of the money in the Treasurer's office begins, upon the retirement of General Spinner, the entire business of that bureau will be suspended.

Woman's rights. San Francisco's new three million dollar palace hotel will contain, among other features, a ladies' billiard room, furnished in princessly style.

Mr. Viti, the Italian Consul at Philadelphia who recently resigned his office, has consented to serve another year, at the earnest appeal of the Italian residents of that city.

The quantity of iron to be used in the construction of the Centennial buildings will aggregate about six thousand tons, of which more than five-sixths will be wrought.

Minneapolis, Minnesota, is making great preparations for the entertainment of delegates to the convention of the National Educational Association, which occurs in August next.

Mr. Hugh Childers, a member of the English Parliament, pats the United States on the head and ventures the prediction that in fifty years it will have a population of 150,000,000.

Depression. There are hundreds of warehouses in the best part of New York city without tenants, and thousands of houses are occupied by people who cannot pay their landlords.

The father of the new infant Emperor of China is reported to be a foe to progress, an enemy to foreigners and an adherent of the policy which attempts to effect their exclusion from China.

That saucy Norristown *Herald* likens Spinner's signature to an "engraving of a bunch of eels." Somebody has probably given the editor a greenback by way of eleemosynary relief.

The latest reports make the supply of wheat yet to come forward from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Kansas, the great cereal-growing portion of the Union, some fifty-two million bushels.

"Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves." An Englishman has been doing a very small but safe business in counterfeiting pennies. He has made $10,000 at it.

Cold-blooded cannibalism. The Troy *Times* states that in the lakes in the vicinity of that city little fishes are very scarce, having been eaten up by the big ones during the hard winter.

A new and valuable medical agent has been discovered in "nitrite of amyl." It produces an extraordinary relaxation of the blood vessels and the muscular fibers, and is a specific against spasms.

New Yorkers are in a great fret over the prospect that the opening of navigation, this year, is to be very late. The outlook was never known to be so bad before at this time in the spring, they say.

The Indianapolis School Board has "at length agreed not to build the two school houses for the purpose of teaching all common branches in German. There was much confusion of tongues over it.

A practicable water route to connect the Mississippi river with the Atlantic ocean, has been found between Cairo, Illinois, and Darien, Georgia. The distance is 1,000 miles, of which 900 are navigable rivers.

Virginia accepts with thanks the bronze statue of Stonewall Jackson offered to that State by Beresford Hope, member of the British Parliament. Somebody should make it a present of a statue of Sheridan.

The sharp competition between the Pennsylvania Central and Baltimore and Ohio lines has drawn greatly on the business of the Upper or Michigan and Canadian routes. Over fifty per cent. of the business of the latter was transferred to the former last month.

PERSONAL.

Rev. Horace Bushnell, the famous preacher and writer on female suffrage, is lying dangerously ill at his home in Hartford.

Yung Wing, the Chinese Educational Commissioner, has just been made a voter at Hartford, and is probably the first native of China ever naturalized in the United States.

General Butler authorizes an explicit denial of the truth of the published story that he is counsel in a case to recover $50,000 for property seized for the Union army at New Orleans, when he was in command of that city.

Pete McCartney, the distinguished counterfeiter who escaped from the St. Louis jail several weeks ago, was recaptured lately in Texas. It is said that he paid five thousand dollars for the privilege of escaping, and his re-arrest will be pretty hard on him.

Jesse Pomeroy, the Boston boy murderer, is studying Latin and Greek during his confinement. He recently said in regard to the murder of Horace Millen: "It seems as if the whole affair was now passing before me in a mist, and that I could not help doing what I did."

There is a young fellow in Portland, Maine, whose future depends upon the result of the Brooklyn trial, because the girl he loves has promised to marry him if Beecher is pronounced innocent; otherwise she declares that her confidence in man will be destroyed and she will never wed.

The rumored abdication of the Emperor of Brazil, telegraphed from Europe, is entirely discredited in diplomatic circles and at the State Department. No information of the alleged purpose has been received at Washington, officially, which undoubtedly would have been the case if there was any truth in the report.

Gov. Chamberlain, of South Carolina, has been invited by the faculty of the Yale Law School to deliver the oration before that institution at the next commencement. In communicating the invitation, Prof. Francis Wayland, Dean of the Faculty, informed Gov. Chamberlain that he was the first and unanimous choice for the position.

New England grows a little irreverent. Nearly all the clergymen in Hartford were summoned on the first instant to a hotel, there to bind in matrimonial chains a fair youth and gentle maiden. About twenty-four of the good men appeared simultaneously to discover among the sad, sweet smiles of a surrounding crowd that they were the subjects of a hoax.

United States Senator Ingalls has been reduced to poverty by going security for a brother, who is in the boot and shoe business in a Southern city, and was held responsible for a sum exceeding $50,000. He has assigned all his Kansas property for the payment of the debt, pledged his salary as United States Senator for one year in advance, and is still held for $25,000.

President Porter, of Yale College, recently gave the following laconic and excellent advice to the students in the course of an extended address: "Don't drink. Don't chew. Don't smoke. Don't swear. Don't deceive. Don't read novels. Don't marry until you can support a wife. Be earnest. Be self-reliant. Be generous. Be civil. Read the papers. Advertise your business. Make money, and do good with it. Love God and your fellow-men."

The Boston *Herald* sketches a late incident in the lower branch of the Massachusetts Legislature: "The gentleman from Hudson exerted his deep and pondcrous voice to its fullest extent, and swung his arms with all the majestic gesticulation at his command; and during his peroration his left arm and hand described a semi-circle with no mean force just as the member from Northampton attempted to pass down the aisle in which the orator was standing. The result was, that the hand of one of the gentlemen and the nose of the other came in contact, and thereupon the House roared with laughter and applauded the incident. The excitement having subsided, the orator braced himself up and apologized as follows: 'Mr. Speaker, if there is any one under the sun whom I would care to strike more than another, that is the man (pointing to the member in question) I would hit.' The House was again convulsed, and the gentleman from Hudson finished his peroration as coolly as if nothing had happened."

The Distress in Kansas, and the Loafers at Home.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Owing, no doubt, to my incomparable manuscript, your typos have mistaken the name of my quondam client in this Kansas region. It is not "John Connor," but John Cannon, son of Fergus Cannon, of Indiana, who was my father's nephew. I met Mr. Cannon at the death bed of his mother, and during his attendance there, he told me the story as I have given it to your readers. He is now in Canton, O., in the office of the manufacturers of the mowing machine which has its sickle bar in front of the driver. I have forgotten its name; but had him specify their machine, because, last summer, I attended part of a boy who was cut into several pieces by one with the bar behind.

My informant is perfectly reliable, has no personal interest in the aid to be extended, and witnessed the want he describes, and injures the value of the property he has left by confessing the great and general destitution of the State. Since seeing him, one of my neighbors, Mr. Morse, of Mifflin Mills, has told me of a letter received from a near relative, in Kansas, saying that she and her family, their neighbors and domestic animals are starving.

Now, I move that Pittsburgh "*secede from*" one and all, be left to work or starve just as they have a mind; that they be left to preserve the lives of their wives and children, or not, just as they have a mind, or resign all right, title, interest and claim to said wives and children and be finally separated from them; and that all the aid which benevolence can muster be reserved for those who have labored faithfully and are willing to labor. Let us have done with such pusillanimous loafers! Let us be done with these blatant swaggerers, who have such a lofty estimate of their manhood, that they live on the cold victuals begged by their wives and children, and the soup made for them by delicate women who had much better be minding their own business, if they have any; and if not, in working worsted dogs with any kind of eyes that can be made in crossstitch.

If the ladies of Pittsburgh have not, for the last three-three years, had a time feeding a set of able-bodied Paddies who would not shovel the snow off the streets through which their benefactors dragged their weary feet, I would like to know who has.

Ever since the winter of 1842-43, the first I spent in Swissvale, the women of Pittsburgh have been feeding Paddies every winter, so far as I can learn; and the business grows on their hands. Every winter, "be jabers," they come like crows to a carrion feast; and, of late years, they have been reinforced by recruits of all nationalities, until they are worse than grasshoppers. Delicate women, wives of industrious, economical tradesmen, merchants and manufacturers are oppressed doing the work of their families, because Madame Benevolence, in taking care of the "wives and families" of men too lazy to work, is supporting thousands of women in idleness. Our manufactories are closed, and a whole community brought to the verge of bankruptcy, because Lady Bountiful must have subjects on which to expend her surplus energy, and so takes care of the families of the poor oppressed coal diggers who are out shooting their neighbors!

Next winter we will probably have a special subscription to furnish the poor fellows with cartridges and Colt's revolvers with which to dispose of those workmen who show any regard for the interests of employers!

As for taking care of the families of fellows who are openly engaged in preventing other men using their own hands for their own benefit, it would have been quite as logical to have supported the families of the rebels in arms to destroy the Government. Men who are public enemies have no right to